Country Living

Flea Market Finds

165 Secrets to Discovering Hidden Treasures

This relatively rare Silver Crest cake plate by Fenton could fetch a sweet $75.

If paired with the original 12 cups, this bowl by glassmaker Hazel-Atlas would bring in $50.

The Thrill of the Bargain Hunt

◆

Display Your Collection in Style

◆

What Your Vintage Piece is Worth

HEARST specials

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Caliente.COM

Country Living

SPECIAL ISSUE

Flea Market Finds

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Some may see these familiar items as nothing more than everyday objects. But for a collector, these vintage beauties are unique keepsakes to be displayed and treasured.

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Some collectors have added character into their home by integrating functional pieces with vintage treasures. There are countless ways to show off prized collections.

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What Is It? What Is It Worth?

Treasure hunters often have a keen eye for what's special. Ourteam of experts appraises some of our favorite finds from over the years.

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Sexton
GOLDEN RULE
PURE SPICES
ALLSPICE
superb spanish PAPRIKA
John Sexton & Co.
52

Crosswhite's
SANDWICH
SHOP
CANDIES
66

Clockwise from top right: a Pullman suitcase with travel stickers, a striped set from manufacturer Oshkosh, and a Louis Vuitton trunk.

HOTEL LAGO MAGGIORE
ROMA
ISMAILIA EGYPT
ISMAILIA PALACE HOTEL
MENA HOUSE HOTEL CAIRO
HOTEL TIBERIAS
TIBERIAS PALESTINE

E.S.M.
WYOMING
SOUTH
L.V

Chapter 1

COMMON COLLECTIBLES

Some may see these familiar items as nothing more than everyday objects. But for a collector, these vintage beauties are unique keepsakes to be displayed and treasured.

Common Collectibles

VANITY FLAIR

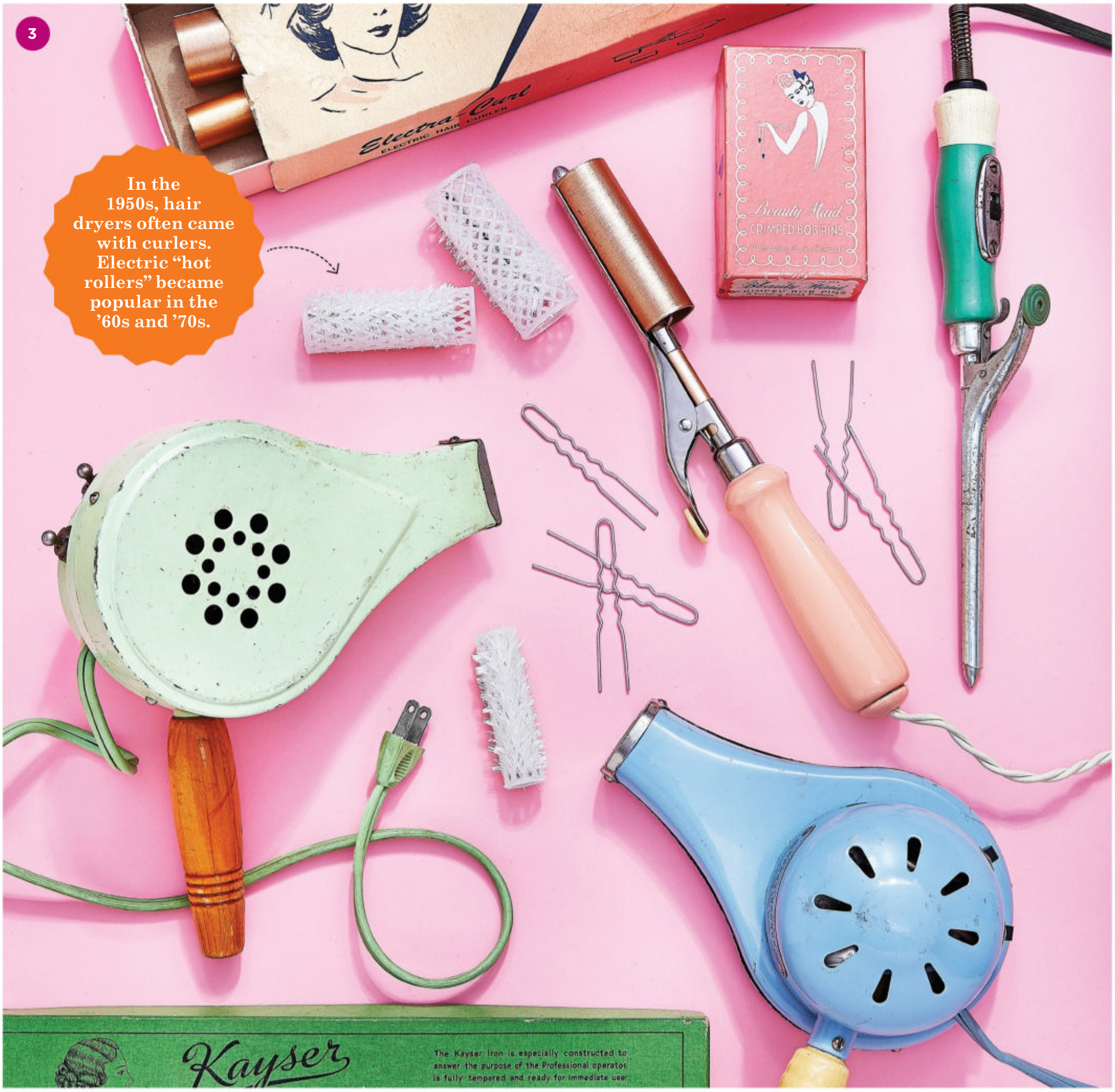
From compacts and curling irons to brushes and books, vintage styling aids are easy on the eyes.

2
cosmetology
The Secretary's Guide to Beauty and Charm
Beauty Culture At Home . . . .
PAULINE FURLONG
Standard TEXTBOOK OF COSMETOLOGY

Luis Marcus's 1890s invention became known as "bobby pins" in the '20s for the ubiquitous bob haircut.

1. Brush & Mirror Sets
Ornate grooming tools weren't always a mainstay on American vanities. Before mass production started in the 1900s, these sets were often gifted to high-society brides and new mothers. Present-day collectors are most drawn to pieces made from tortoiseshell, ivory, porcelain, and silver, which generally command top dollar. A 1920s sterling silver set from Lalique or Tiffany & Co., for example, can fetch thousands. Midcentury plastic sets go for far less—anywhere from $10 to $100 depending on detailing. For a nicely curated mix of vanity items, check out Ruby Lane (*rubylane.com*) and Everything but the House (*ebth.com*).

2. Textbooks & Guides
In 1890, Alfred Brisbois and Leon Federmeyer launched the first hairdressing academy in the country, but it wasn't until the advent of the film industry and surge in beauty trends in the 1930s that cosmetology became a truly viable profession. Textbooks offered expertise on all aspects of beauty topics, including hairstyles, coloring, finger waving, manicures, and facials. The 1950s edition of the *Standard Textbook of Cosmetology* offered sage advice: "Be careful to avoid bad breath and body odors." Although relatively scarce—most textbooks were treated like workbooks and discarded after class—they aren't particularly valuable. Etsy and eBay have a good selection for as little as $15.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Electra-Curl
ELECTRIC HAIR CURLER
Beauty Maid
CRIMPED BOB PINS
Kayser
The Kayser Iron is especially constructed to answer the purpose of the Professional operator, is fully tempered and ready for immediate use.

In the 1950s, hair dryers often came with curlers. Electric "hot rollers" became popular in the '60s and '70s.

3. Styling Gadgets

Curling irons: Hairstyling heated up in 1872 when Frenchman Marcel Grateau began using gardening tool–like tongs to curl hair. Instruments were heated over a burner, which made temps difficult to control. That was remedied in 1959 with the arrival of the electric curling iron. Today, a Marcel iron complete with the original gas heating device twirls up a price of $200, while candy-colored irons from the 1960s can be had for around $20.

Hair dryers: The first hot-blast hair dryer also emerged in the late 1800s as a helmet-style seated drying machine with a long hose that connected to a heat source. More portable versions didn't come on the scene until the 1920s. Handheld midcentury hair dryers are plentiful today for around $20.

4. Compacts & Lipstick Cases

These decorative pieces emerged in the 1900s as a way to conceal cosmetics at a time when makeup was controversial. It became more acceptable in the Roaring '20s, but the demand for pretty cases remained. Values vary greatly. For example, vintage gold compacts from a luxury maker like Hermès or Cartier may go for as much as $7,500, and a bejeweled lipstick holder from the 1920s recently went for $4,000 in an online auction. But more casual collectors can look for mass-produced items from the 1950s and '60s. Makers like Stratton produced themed series—"Orchid" is a popular one—that fetch $40 apiece.

4

W
Ex·Cel·Cis
DG

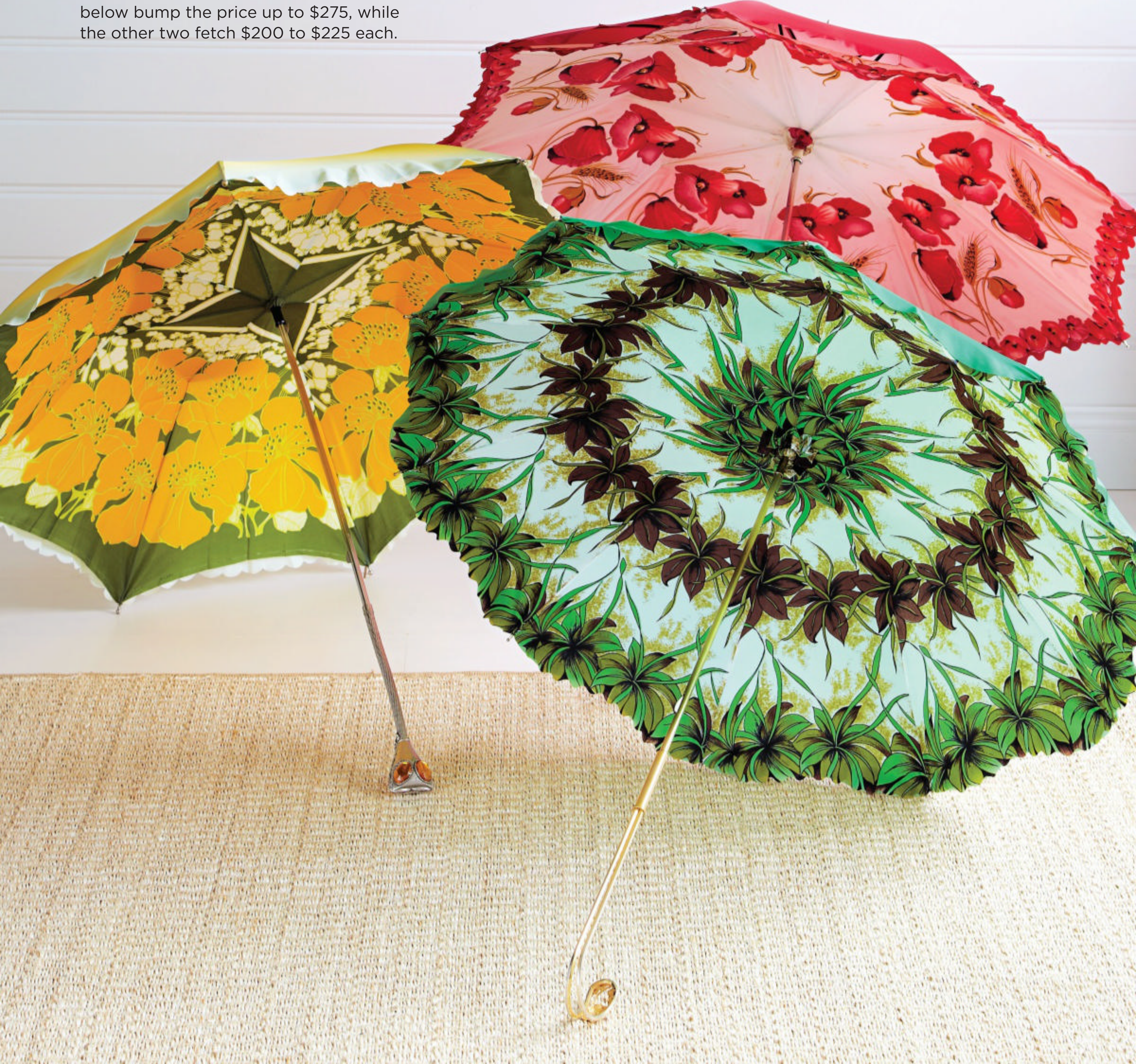
Common Collectibles

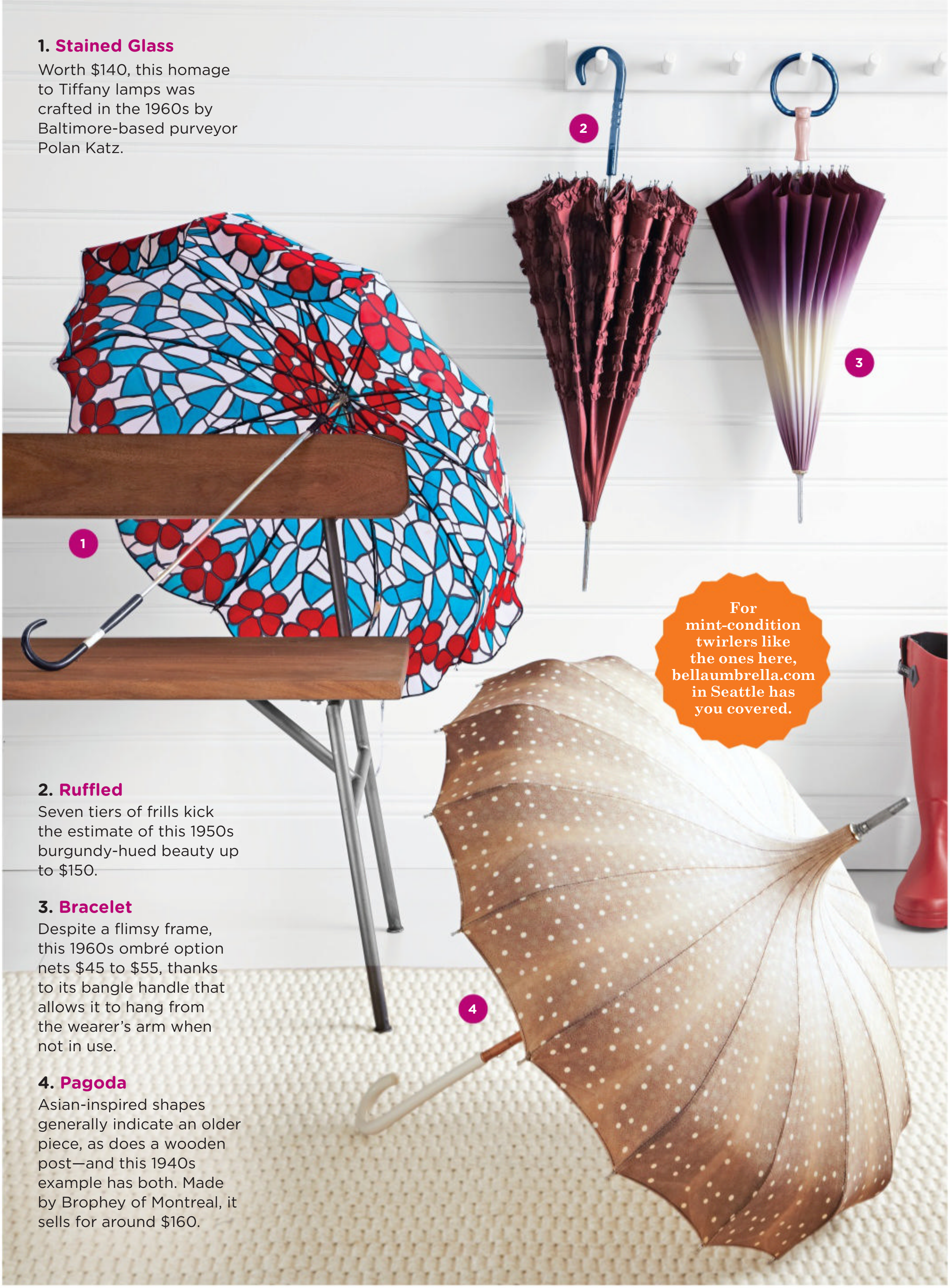
GRAND OPENINGS

Gray days are no match for the cheerful cover of a vintage umbrella.

Lined in Style

Umbrellas from the 1940s through the 1960s were much sturdier (and prettier) than today's $5 models. In the 1960s, European makers started adding an inside layer of fabric to hide the ribs and also play with pattern. The faux gemstones on the yellow model below bump the price up to $275, while the other two fetch $200 to $225 each.





1. Stained Glass
Worth $140, this homage to Tiffany lamps was crafted in the 1960s by Baltimore-based purveyor Polan Katz.

2. Ruffled
Seven tiers of frills kick the estimate of this 1950s burgundy-hued beauty up to $150.

3. Bracelet
Despite a flimsy frame, this 1960s ombré option nets $45 to $55, thanks to its bangle handle that allows it to hang from the wearer's arm when not in use.

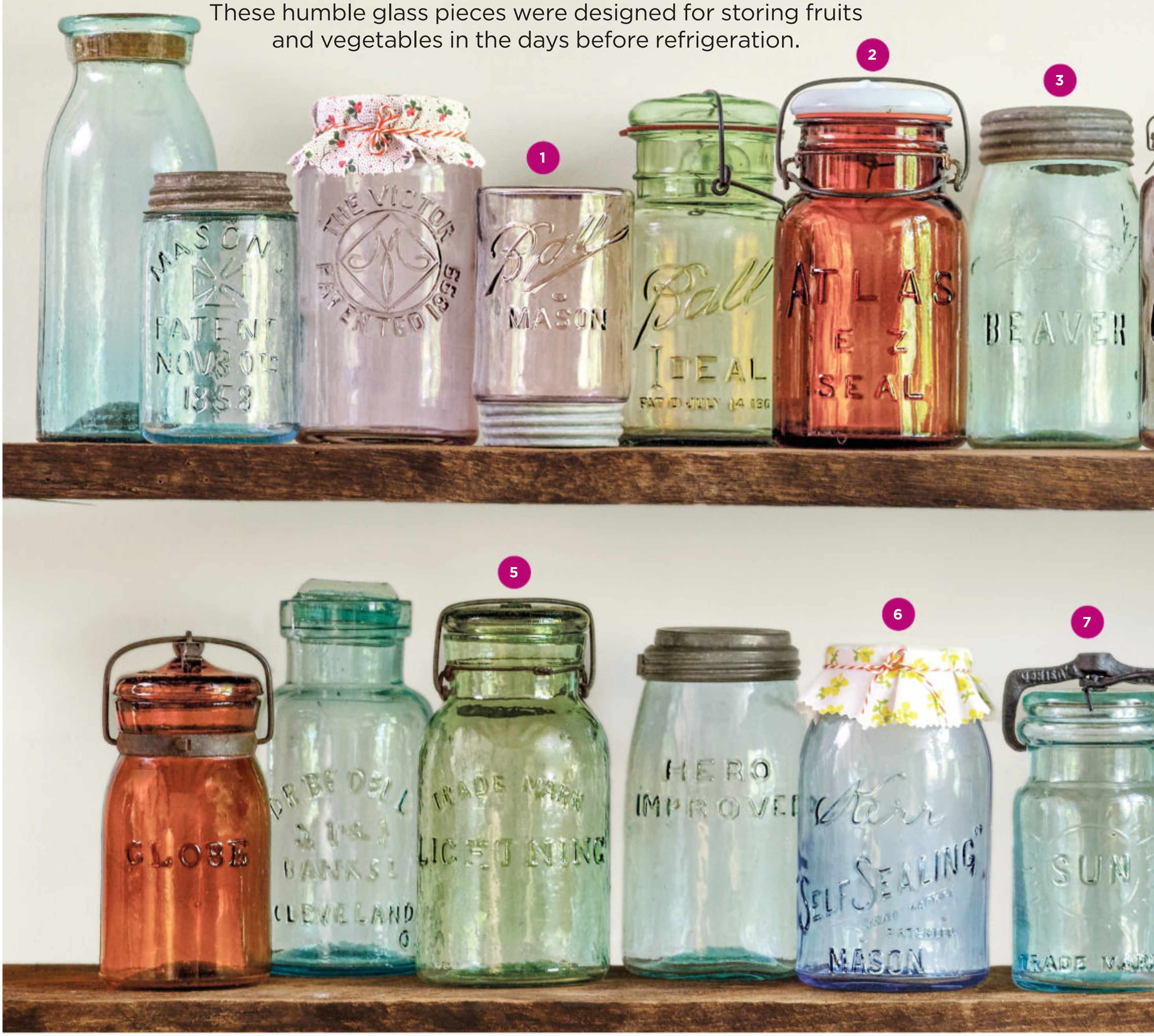
4. Pagoda
Asian-inspired shapes generally indicate an older piece, as does a wooden post—and this 1940s example has both. Made by Brophey of Montreal, it sells for around $160.

For mint-condition twirlers like the ones here, bellaumbrella.com in Seattle has you covered.

Common Collectibles

CANNING JARS

These humble glass pieces were designed for storing fruits and vegetables in the days before refrigeration.

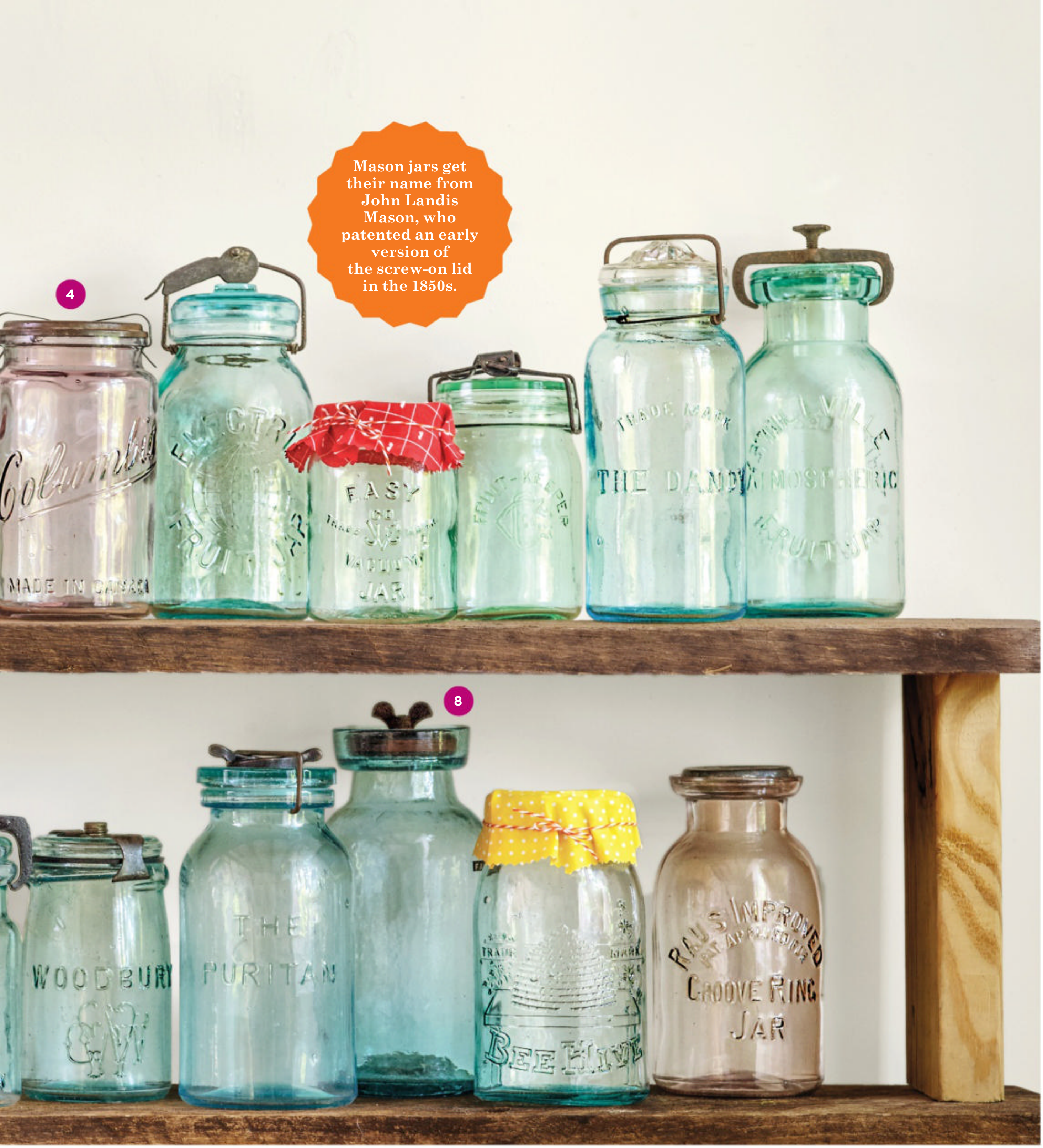


1. Upside-Down Jar by Ball
Issued only from 1900 to 1910, this jar could double as a dispenser for a coffee grinder. The short production window gives it considerable cachet. **Value:** $1,000

2. E-Z Seal by Atlas
The amber hue is more than just decorative. When it was produced in 1910, there was a misconception that the dark shade prevented spoilage. **Value:** $60

3. Beaver Jar
The lid of this 1880s jar (made in Canada) has a metal band with a glass top—the result of the government deeming it unsanitary for metal to directly touch canned foods. **Value:** $100

4. Violet Jar by Columbia
Manganese added to the jars created a purple tint when exposed to the sun. The color was initially an error, but manufacturers began selling the popular shade in 1905. **Value:** $400



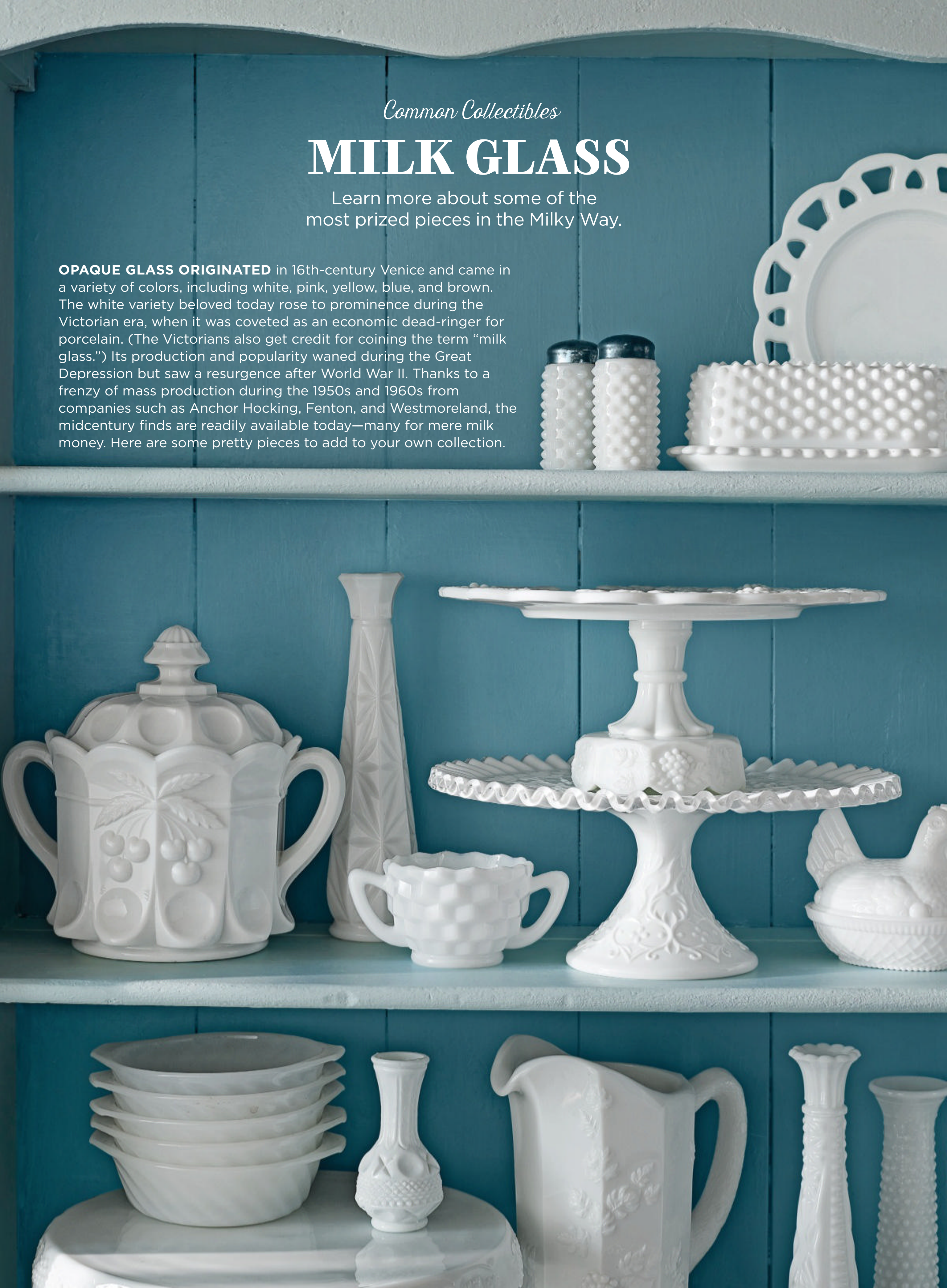
Mason jars get their name from John Landis Mason, who patented an early version of the screw-on lid in the 1850s.

5. Lightning Jar by Ball
In the common green shade, this wire bale 1910 model commands a respectable rate. A rare cobalt blue model fetches $10,000 or more.
Value: $400

6. Self-Sealing Jar by Kerr
Released in 1915, this item once boasted a rubber lid. (When heated, it would melt to create a seal.) Missing the topper cuts the price in half.
Value: $40

7. Sun Jar by Bartow
This 1890s style was known for its lever tops. Buyer beware: Reproductions abound. If a lid's metal looks pristine, it's likely too good to be true.
Value: $175

8. Willoughby Stopple
When this 1858 jar's two-plate top with a wingnut proved defective, most were thrown out. Today the scarce find proves that one era's trash is another's treasure.
Value: $500

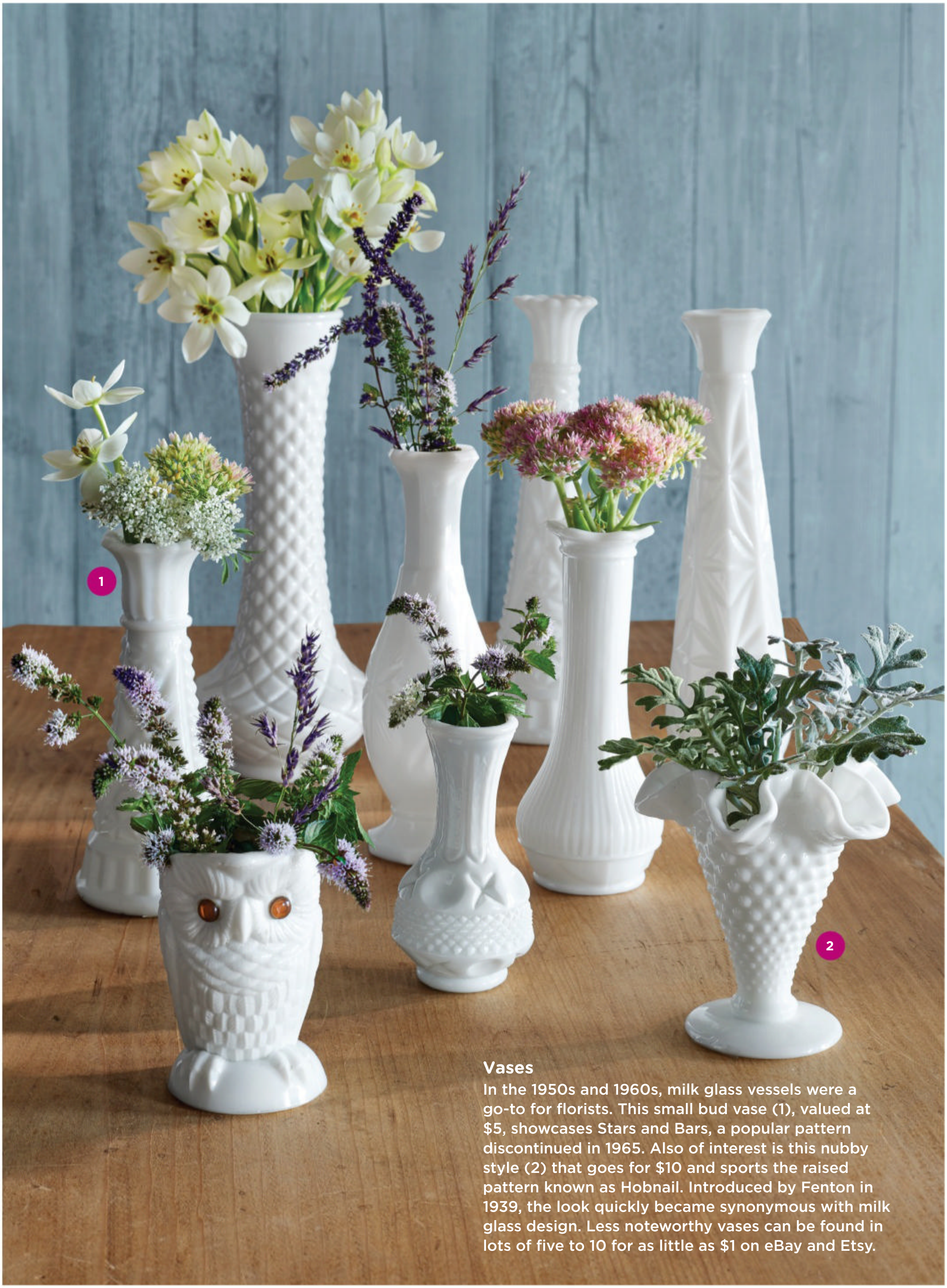


Common Collectibles

MILK GLASS

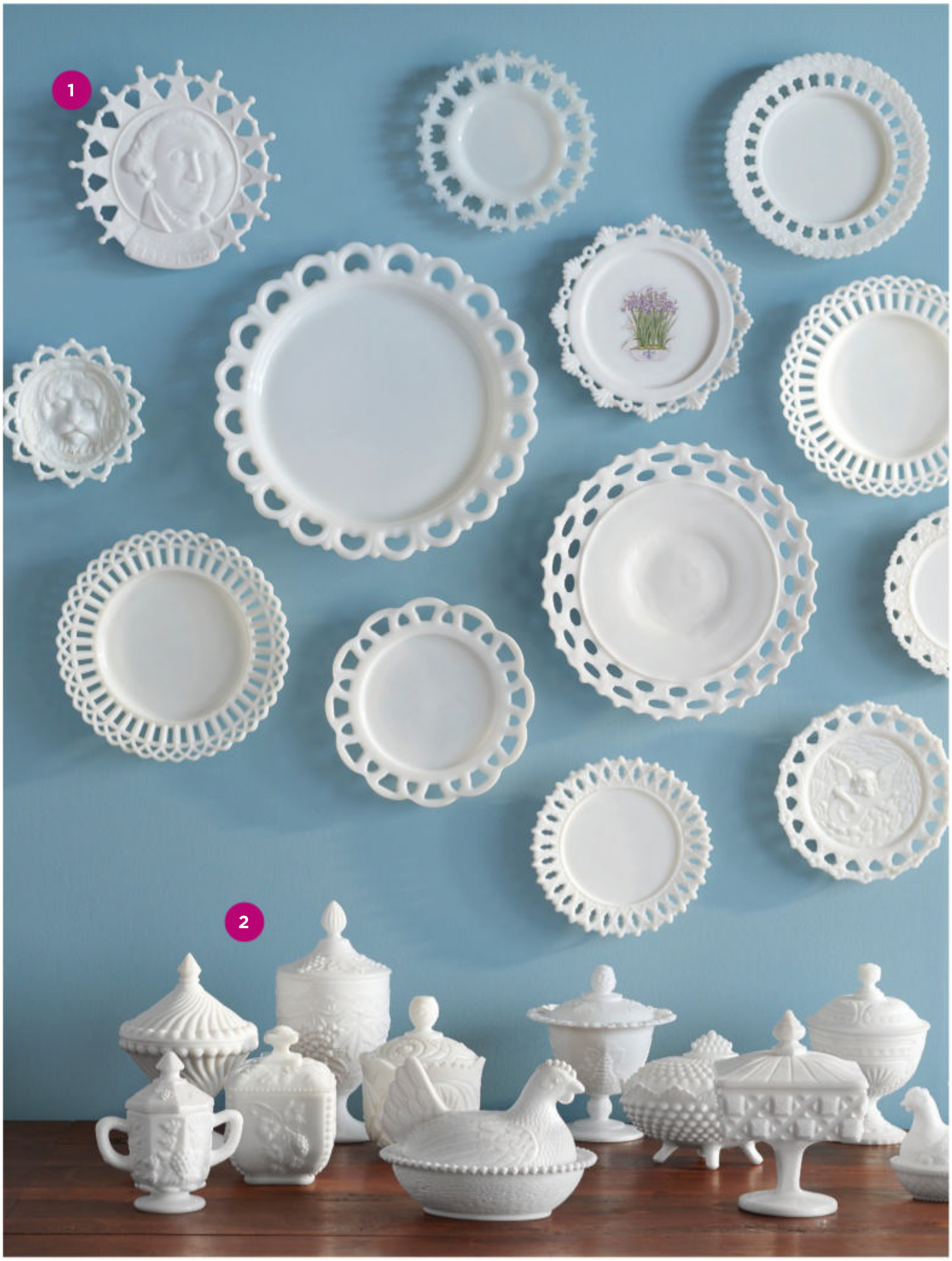
Learn more about some of the
most prized pieces in the Milky Way.

OPAQUE GLASS ORIGINATED in 16th-century Venice and came in a variety of colors, including white, pink, yellow, blue, and brown. The white variety beloved today rose to prominence during the Victorian era, when it was coveted as an economic dead-ringer for porcelain. (The Victorians also get credit for coining the term "milk glass.") Its production and popularity waned during the Great Depression but saw a resurgence after World War II. Thanks to a frenzy of mass production during the 1950s and 1960s from companies such as Anchor Hocking, Fenton, and Westmoreland, the midcentury finds are readily available today—many for mere milk money. Here are some pretty pieces to add to your own collection.



Vases

In the 1950s and 1960s, milk glass vessels were a go-to for florists. This small bud vase (1), valued at $5, showcases Stars and Bars, a popular pattern discontinued in 1965. Also of interest is this nubby style (2) that goes for $10 and sports the raised pattern known as Hobnail. Introduced by Fenton in 1939, the look quickly became synonymous with milk glass design. Less noteworthy vases can be found in lots of five to 10 for as little as $1 on eBay and Etsy.



1. Plates
Unlike other 20th-century tabletop collectibles such as Jadeite and Fiesta, milk glass dinnerware was never produced. Instead, the plates seen here were used as serving pieces or home decor. Today, purely decorative plates, like the sought-after one featuring George Washington (top left), sell for $30. Those with flawless adornment (painting floral motifs onto milk glass was a popular hobby) have a rate of $20.

2. Covered Dishes
Decorative sugar bowls and candy dishes were a staple on buffet tables throughout the 1900s. One of the most popular designs was Westmoreland's Paneled Grape. This 1940s version (front row, far left) is worth $25 thanks to its intact lid. Also of note is the Hen on a Nest (center), which has been produced by virtually every milk glass manufacturer at some point. These items were originally sold at grocery stores and contained mustard, but consumers continued to flock to the look long after they transported the condiment. This particular hen was produced in the 1950s by Indiana Glass and clucks in at $35.

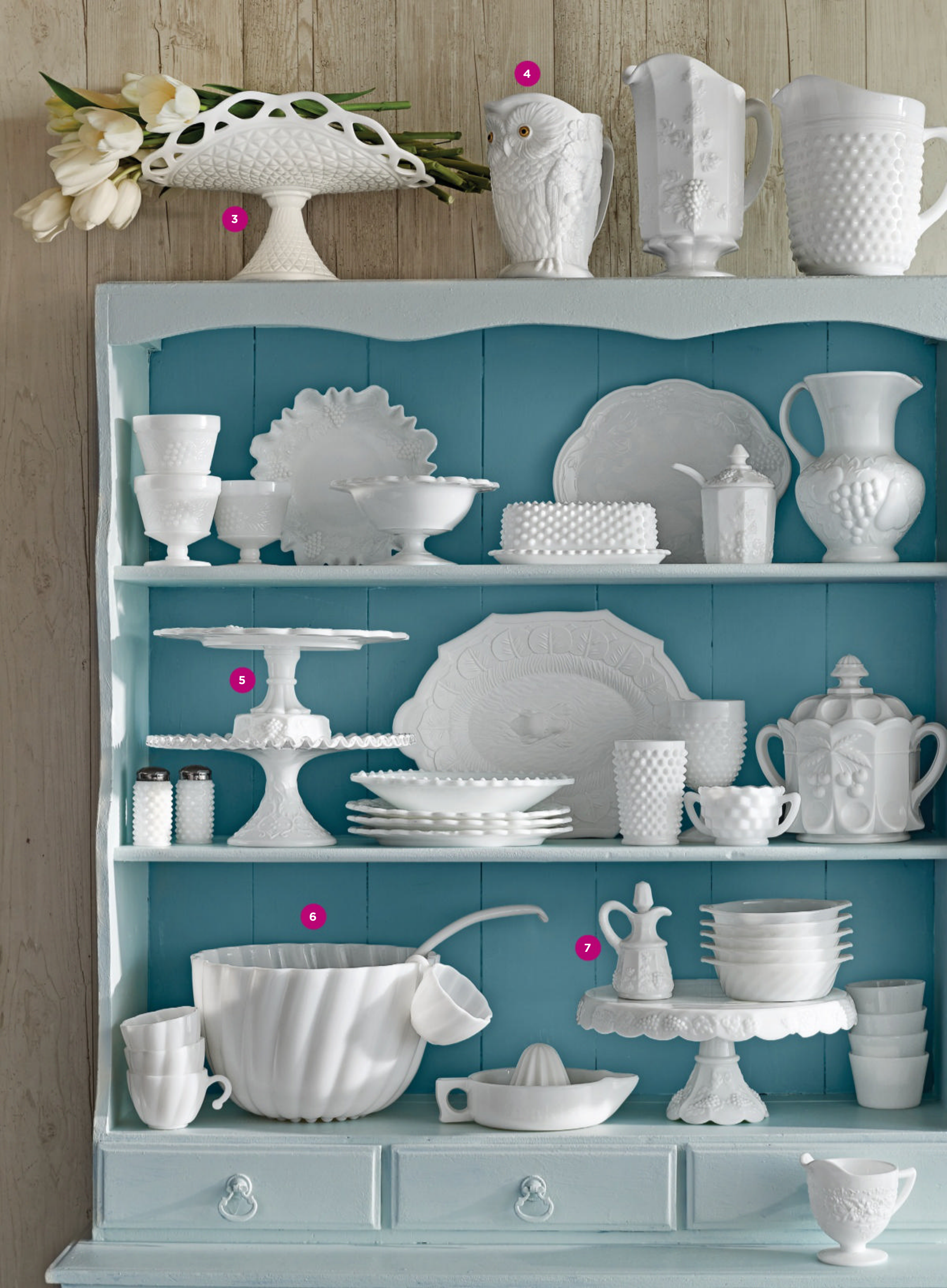
3. Banana Stands
Victorians wanted a dish for everything; bananas were no exception. This 1950s reproduction, used here as a flower display, features a lace edge and holds a value of $45. One from the early 1900s could fetch up to $100.

4. Pitchers
Decorative pitchers recall a time when lingering around the dinner table was the norm. The striking owl version, worth $125, is a wise investment thanks to its pristine cabochon eyes. Less rare pitchers, like those alongside the owl, go for $40.

5. Cake Stands
These stately pieces are the current "it" item among milk glass collectors and have high prices to show for it. The relatively rare Silver Crest cake plate (middle shelf, bottom left) by Fenton has a wavy edge and fetches a sweet $75.

6. Punch Bowl
A party staple of the 1960s, punch bowls are also highly coveted by today's collectors. If paired with the original 12 cups, this bowl by glassmaker Hazel-Atlas would bring in $50. Without the cups, you can scoop it up for $25.

7. Cruets
Made to hold oil and vinegar, cruets were popular during the Victorian era and saw a resurgence during the 1950s. This Westmoreland pourer was part of a set that also came with a small container and a small tray. Alone, the vessel is valued at $25; the full trio would command $50.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Common Collectibles

EARTHENWARE

Pretty yet practical pottery has graced kitchen cabinets since the days of the very first American settlers. Here's a refresher course on five longtime favorites.

’WARES 101

What’s the difference between spatterware and spongeware? Why is yellowware yellow? Here’s your crash course on our favorite earthenware collectibles.

	SALT-GLAZE STONEWARE	SPATTERWARE	MOCHAWARE	SPONGEWARE	YELLOWWARE
CHARACTERISTICS	A glassy appearance and orange-peel texture come from a glaze made by throwing salt into a hot kiln. U.S. versions are defined by the color of regional clay that is used.	A “spattered” design is applied by hand or with a maulstick or pipe that is filled with paint (often cobalt blue oxide mixed with a liquefied clay) and then spattered onto the pottery.	Known for pretty slip (slurry of liquid clays) decoration, this pottery gets its name from the original mocha-colored “tea” used to make the designs. A primary ingredient of the tea was tobacco juice.	Similar in appearance to spatterware (left), but the designs are made as the name implies—using sponges to apply colored glaze, resulting in a more uniform pattern.	Named for the fine yellow clay from which it’s made, yellowware may vary in color from a light butter to a deeper orangy hue, all depending on the clay used.
PROVENANCE	First made in Rhineland, Germany, salt-glaze pottery hit America in the early 17th century and remained hugely popular through the early 19th century.	While it was originally made in 18th-century Staffordshire, England, the colors, patterns, and sturdy earthenware construction were chosen with American colonists in mind.	This light-bodied pottery was produced in England from around 1770 through the 1930s. The Industrial Revolution brought minimal production to the U.S.	Developed in England, it all but replaced new spatterware production, thanks to its easier application.	Developed in England in the late 18th century. U.S. production began around 1830, primarily in areas like Ohio and New Jersey, due to an abundance of the necessary yellow clay.
PATTERN PLAY	Cobalt oxide was used to make figural designs of all types, from squiggles to animals.	While simple borders and stripes were common, many pieces were also adorned with painted animals, flowers, and fruits.	Designs are endless, as simple bands were often accented with patterns such as tobacco leaf, cat’s eye (below), earthworm, and dendritic (branch or seaweed-like).	The iconic overall sponge-applied pattern is made of cobalt blue oxide.	Most commonly known for its bands of white, blue, and brown, although some pieces were further ornamented with mochaware-inspired patterns.
STAR QUALITY	About half of found stoneware is identifiable by its maker, thanks to a signature design or the brand stamp. Marked pieces carry more value, with some by the likes of B.C. Milburn even hitting five figures.	As a general rule, more colors mean more value. A Rainbow piece—found in up to six colors—may top four figures.	Due to its delicate nature, not much survived. Some of the more rare items, especially lidded pieces, can command several thousand dollars.	Imported into Canada through Portneuf, Portneuf Ware (top) showcases “cut spongeware” design at its best, with values to match.	Once production hit the factory line, bowl sizes became more standard, resulting in nesting sets of up to 12 sizes. Full sets of matching banded bowls can bring several hundred dollars.

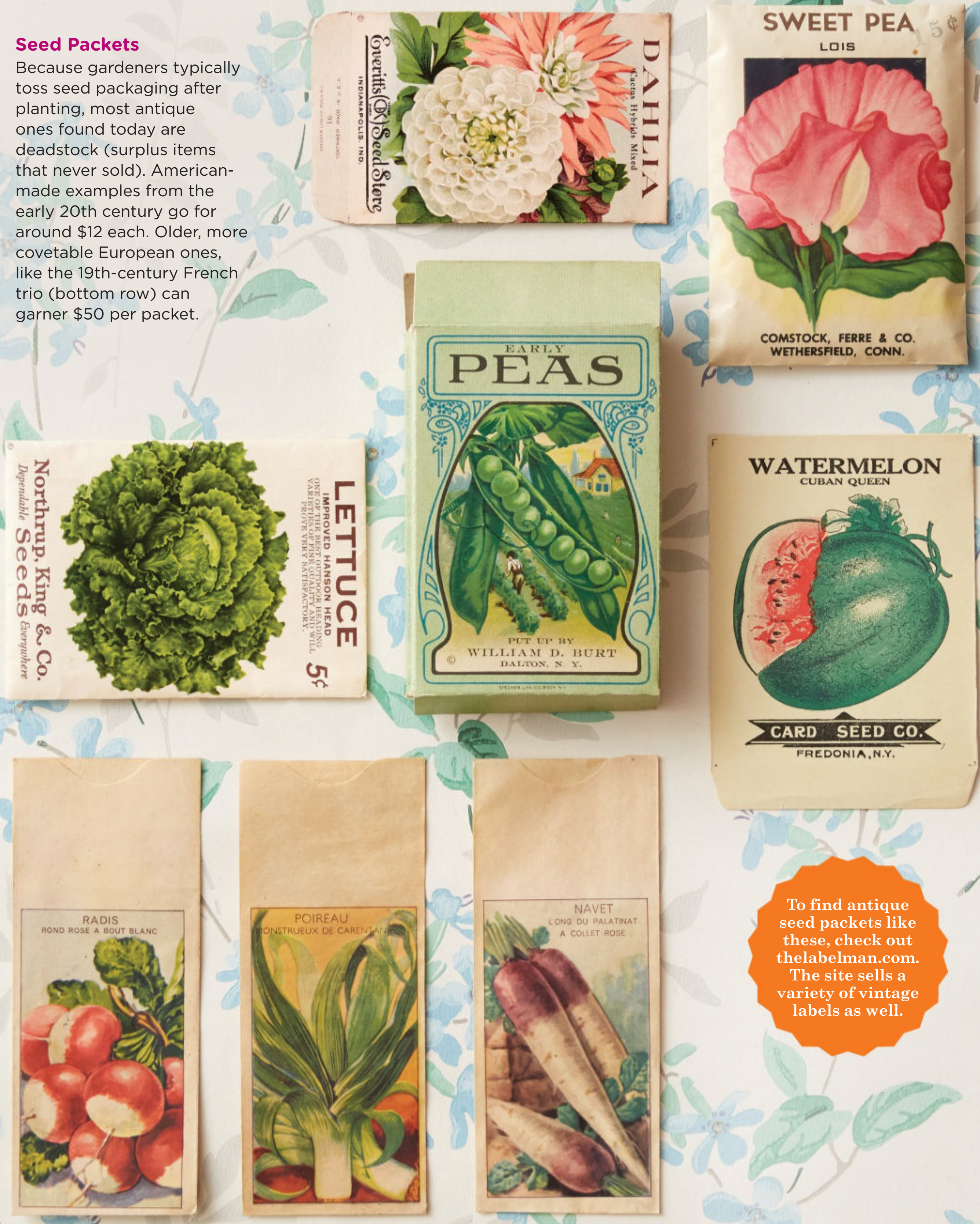
Common Collectibles

GARDENING ESSENTIALS

Here's the dirt on graphic seed packets, simple blacksmith-made tools, and other picks that sow a stunning display.

Seed Packets

Because gardeners typically toss seed packaging after planting, most antique ones found today are deadstock (surplus items that never sold). American-made examples from the early 20th century go for around $12 each. Older, more covetable European ones, like the 19th-century French trio (bottom row) can garner $50 per packet.


Everitts (EK) Seed Store
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
DAHLIA
Cactus Hybrids Mixed
SWEET PEA
15¢
LOIS
COMSTOCK, FERRE & CO.
WETHERSFIELD, CONN.
EARLY
PEAS
PUT UP BY
WILLIAM D. BURT
DALTON, N. Y.
LETTUCE
IMPROVED HANSON HEAD
ONE OF THE BEST OUTDOOR HEADING VARIETIES OF FINE QUALITY AND WILL PROVE VERY SATISFACTORY.
5¢
Northrup, King & Co.
Dependable Seeds Everywhere
WATERMELON
CUBAN QUEEN
CARD SEED CO.
FREDONIA, N.Y.
RADIS
ROND ROSE A BOUT BLANC
POIREAU
MONSTRUEUX DE CARENTAN
NAVET
LONG DU PALATINAT
A COLLET ROSE

To find antique seed packets like these, check out thelabelman.com. The site sells a variety of vintage labels as well.

1. Garden Syringe
The vessel could be easily filled with insecticides, making it ideal for the amateur gardener. This restored late-19th-century piece, featuring a brass body and rosewood handle, commands $100.

2. Lawn Sprinkler
Made by notable English maker Philip B. Waldron Co. in the 1940s, this sculptural piece—restored to working condition—is valued at $75.

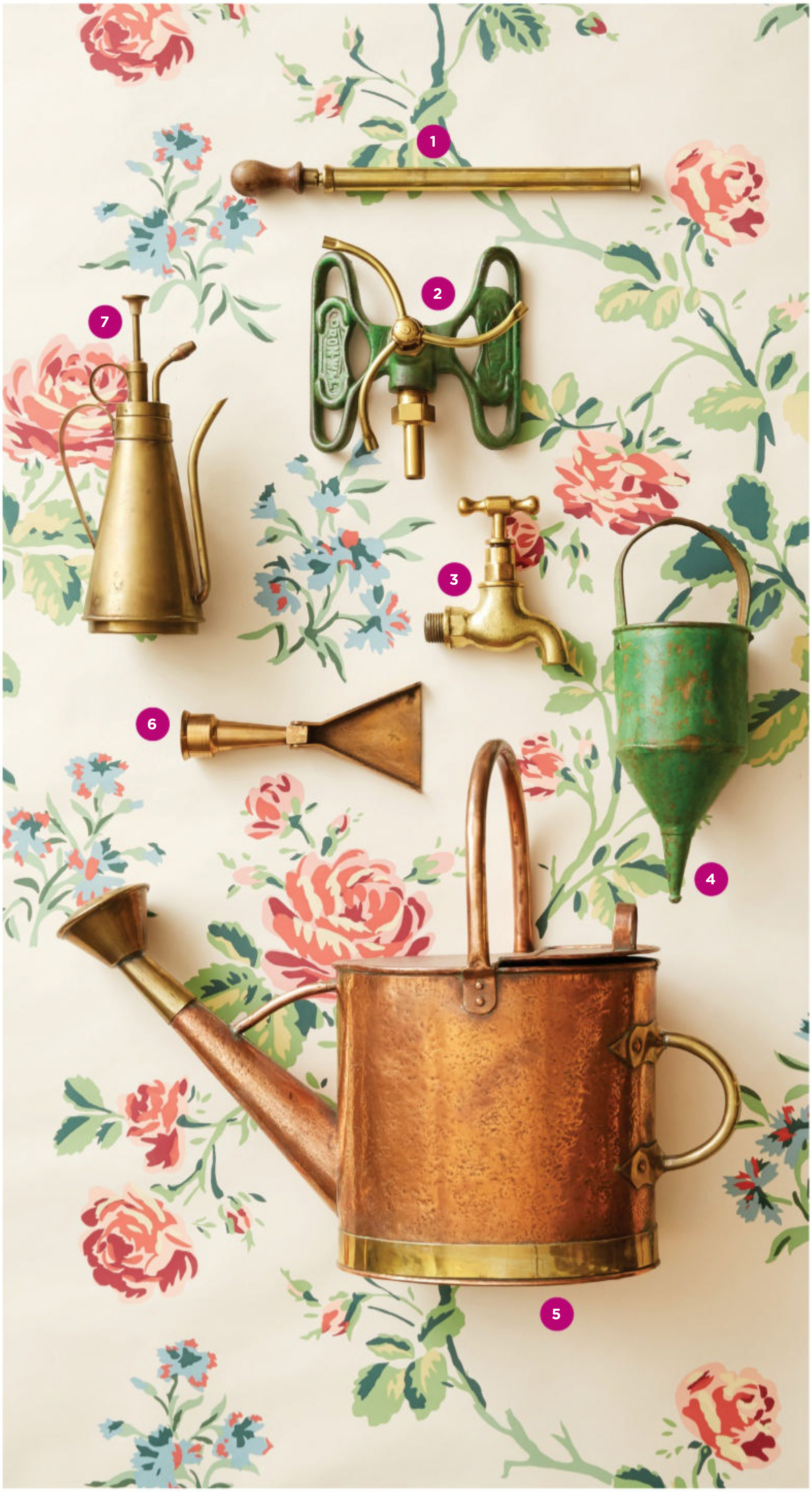
3. Hose Bibb
This early-20th-century brass bibb (or faucet) is a rarity, as many such brass implements were melted down to make ammunitions during World War I and II. The scarce find merits $200.

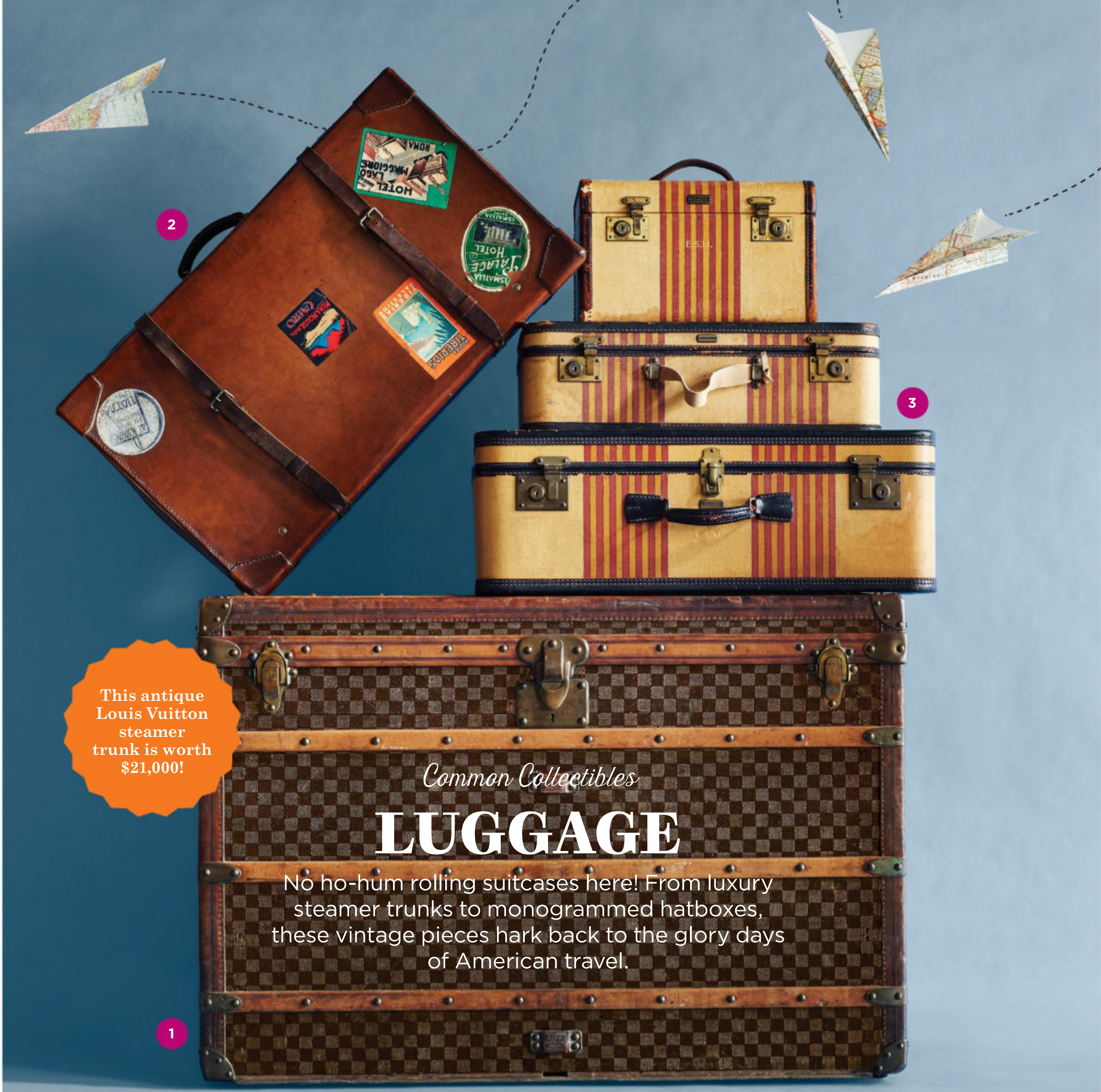
4. Watering Funnel
These metal funnels were used to deliver water to trays of delicate seedlings. Likely handmade for use in a greenhouse, this early-1900s waterer sells for $50.

5. Watering Can
Handheld watering cans weren't introduced until 1886, when John Haws invented an alternative to larger "watering pots." Made in the mid 19th century, this example of Haws's design—with a rare lid feature—will set you back $500.

6. Sprayer Nozzle
This fan-shaped nozzle, made in the late 19th century, was created to spread water out to a wider area. Made of solid brass, the piece boasts a going rate of $250.

7. Plant Mister
Used to water delicate indoor plants, misters (aka atomizers) were introduced in the 1850s. This late-19th-century design holds a value of $125.





This antique Louis Vuitton steamer trunk is worth $21,000!

Common Collectibles

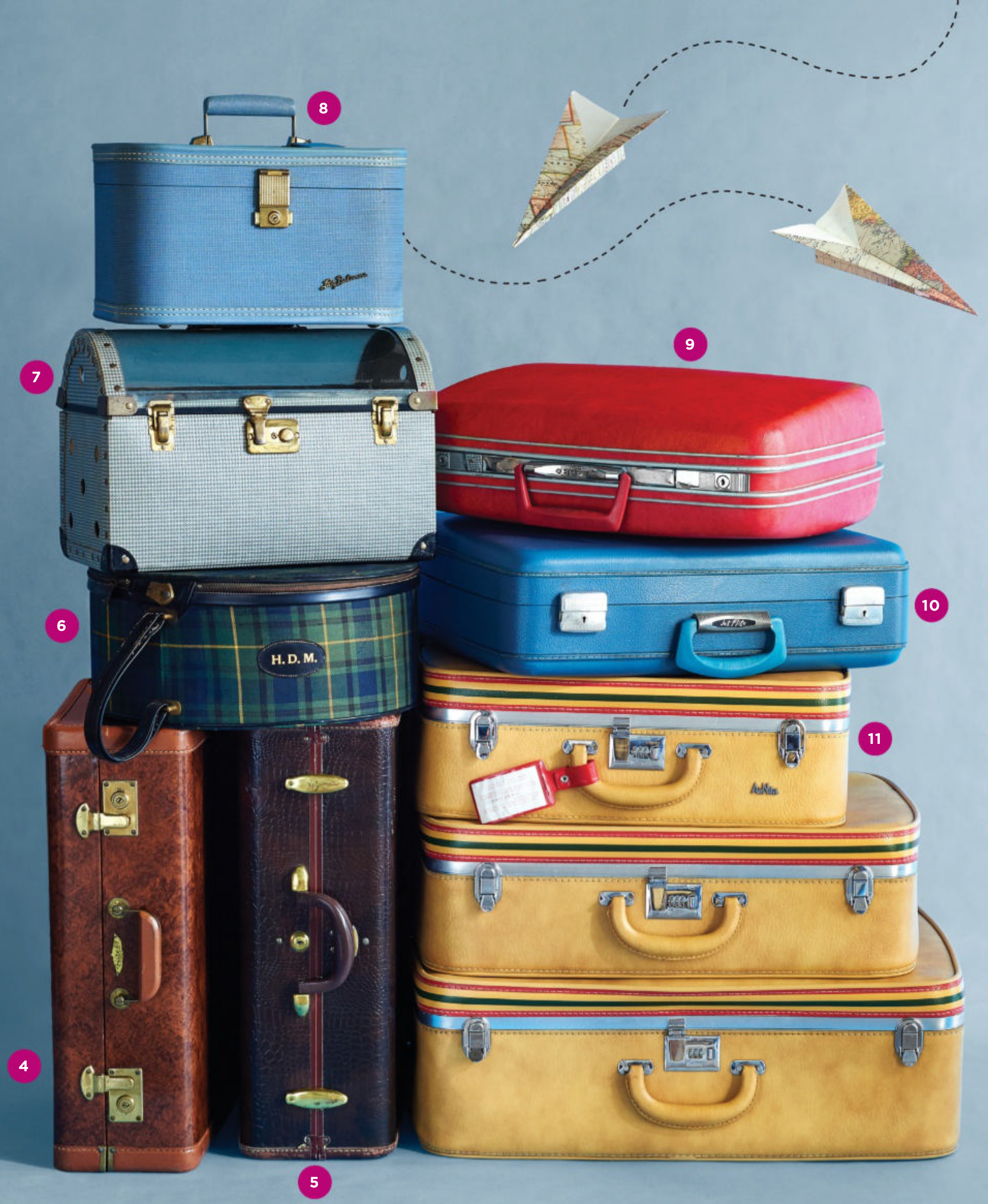
LUGGAGE

No ho-hum rolling suitcases here! From luxury steamer trunks to monogrammed hatboxes, these vintage pieces hark back to the glory days of American travel.

1900s At the start of the 20th century, tourism was the domain of the wealthy who could afford ocean liner voyages—and the hired manpower needed to lug around giant steamer trunks. Luggage during this time was a serious status symbol, and no brand was more coveted than Louis Vuitton. This trunk (1) dates to the early 1900s, when the luxury manufacturer introduced its now iconic checkered Damier pattern. **Value:** $21,000

1920s During this decade, train travel started to replace steamship trips. In turn, luggage got smaller and easier to transport. This particular style is called the Pullman (2), named for the railroad cars whose seats it fit snugly beneath. This item is also of note thanks to its impressive assortment of travel stickers, souvenirs from locations such as Italy, Egypt, and Iraq. **Value:** $375

1930s This striped set (3) from manufacturer Oshkosh was crafted from the Wisconsin company's canvas surplus, which had been sitting in a warehouse since the end of the Spanish-American War. The intention was to paint over the red-and-yellow design, but a buyer from Chicago-based Marshall Field's convinced them otherwise. The result: a striking bag once dubbed "America's Louis Vuitton." **Value:** $1,200 for the set



1940s By the end of this decade, roughly 17 million people took to the skies annually, and travelers had more options for packing up. The Dominion Luggage piece (4) was coveted for its smooth wood-grain pattern. It and the Samsonite (5) have plastic handles, which was an improvement over prone-to-snapping leather grips. Hats were also very much in fashion and called for their own carriers, like this plaid monogrammed pick (6). **Value:** $25 each for suitcases; $50 for hatbox

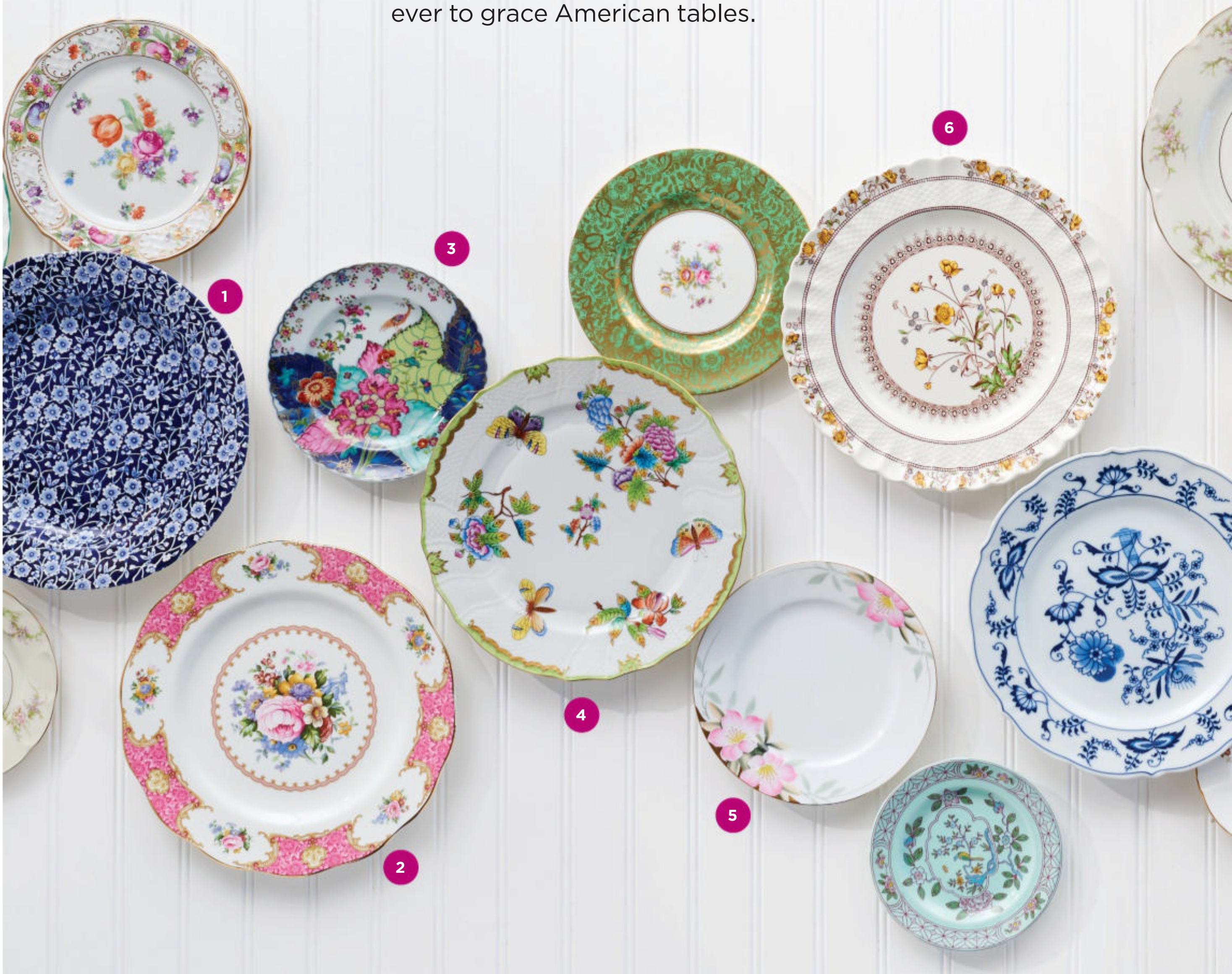
1950s After World War II, cross-country travel exploded. The market became flooded with niche offerings, from a clear-topped pet carrier (7) to an elegant makeup bag (8), just part of an elaborate Lady Baltimore set. The latter was available in eight different colors, and during the 1950s and ’60s it was one of the country’s best-selling bridal shower gifts. **Value:** $40 for the pet carrier; $40 for the Lady Baltimore makeup case ($375 for a five-piece luggage set)

1960s In the late 1960s, air travel soared to 179 million passengers per year. The crowded skies ushered in the era of colorful hard-case packers. Samsonite (9) led the charge with ads featuring a gorilla jumping on its hefty design, and companies such as Jet Flite (10) followed suit. Other makers like Ventura (11) continued to produce leather pieces and introduced an innovation: combination locks. **Value:** $20 each for Samsonite and Jet Flite cases; $200 for Ventura set

Common Collectibles

FLORAL CHINA PATTERNS

From feminine chintz to fanciful English roses, here's the dish on some of the most popular patterns ever to grace American tables.



1. Blue Calico
Chintz dinnerware first emerged in the early 1900s, but this late bloomer didn't hit tables until 1968. An instant classic, the English earthenware is still in production today by Burgess & Leigh.
Value: $26 for dinner plate

2. Lady Carlyle
Based on popular 19th-century English china patterns, this refined dinnerware was launched by Royal Albert in the 1980s and is still in production today.
Value: $32 for dinner plate

3. Tobacco Leaf
The 18th century's most coveted china pattern, the flowering motif was first developed in China circa 1780. (The original manufacturer is unknown.) Today, the design is made by Mottahedeh using 22-karat gold. **Value:** $170 for dinner plate

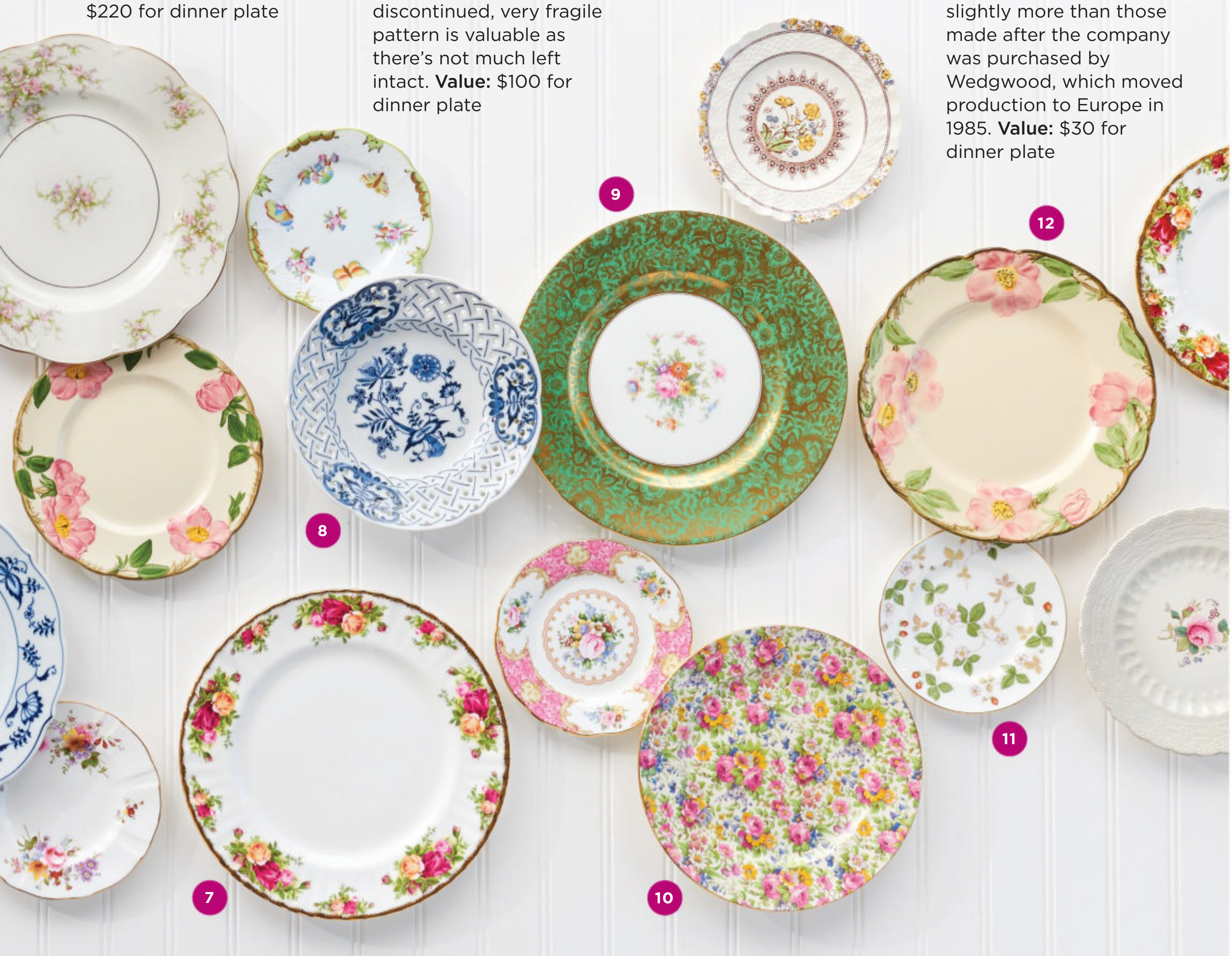
4. Queen Victoria
Introduced by Hungarian company Herend in 1966, this still-active pattern commands a high price, as all Herend pieces are hand-painted by highly skilled craftsmen, which limits supply. **Value:** $180 for dinner plate

9. Brocade Green
Featuring a graphic rim and floral center, this design was introduced by Minton in 1948. Because it's rare to find the pattern with intact gold trim, mint-condition pieces hold high worth. **Value:** $220 for dinner plate

10. Summertime
In 1932, Royal Winton introduced this bubbly favorite meant to cheer folks up during the Great Depression. The design remained in production until 1960. Crafted from an especially soft clay, the discontinued, very fragile pattern is valuable as there's not much left intact. **Value:** $100 for dinner plate

11. Wild Strawberry
First made by Wedgwood in 1965, it soared in popularity when it was picked up exclusively by Tiffany & Co. It's one of Wedgwood's best-selling patterns of all time. **Value:** $50 for dinner plate

12. Desert Rose
The most-sold dinnerware in American history, this casual pattern was introduced by Franciscan in 1941. Desert Rose pieces from those early days (California backstamp, 1941–1984) are worth slightly more than those made after the company was purchased by Wedgwood, which moved production to Europe in 1985. **Value:** $30 for dinner plate



5. Azalea
Created by Japanese maker Noritake in 1918, the pattern was discontinued in 1941, when U.S. imports ceased during World War II. Later, from 1988 to 1992, Azalea got a short-lived second act. **Value:** $25 for dinner plate

6. Buttercup
A less cheery version of Buttercup was introduced by Spode in 1885. But it wasn't until this sunny colorway arrived in 1924 that the happy pattern became a collector favorite. **Value:** $32 for dinner plate

7. Old Country Roses
English maker Royal Albert launched Old Country Roses in 1962. A heavy hitter since its introduction, the pattern has sold more than 130 million pieces, making it the company's most successful design. **Value:** $24 for dinner plate

8. Blue Danube
Developed in 1951 by Lipper International Inc., Blue Danube was inspired by a similar blue-and-white pattern popular during China's Yuan Dynasty (1260–1368 A.D.). **Value:** $30 for dinner plate

GREENE
County
National
4-H CLUB
SONG
BOOK
OKEMOS
4-H
&
OPEN

The clover-adorned collection of 4-H Club memorabilia spans the organization's 100-year history.

ENTOMOLOGY
HERCULES POWDER COMPANY
N.H. 4-H CAMPS
4-H Horse Leaders Association Of Livingston County
SEARS PULLET FL MGT.

Chapter 2

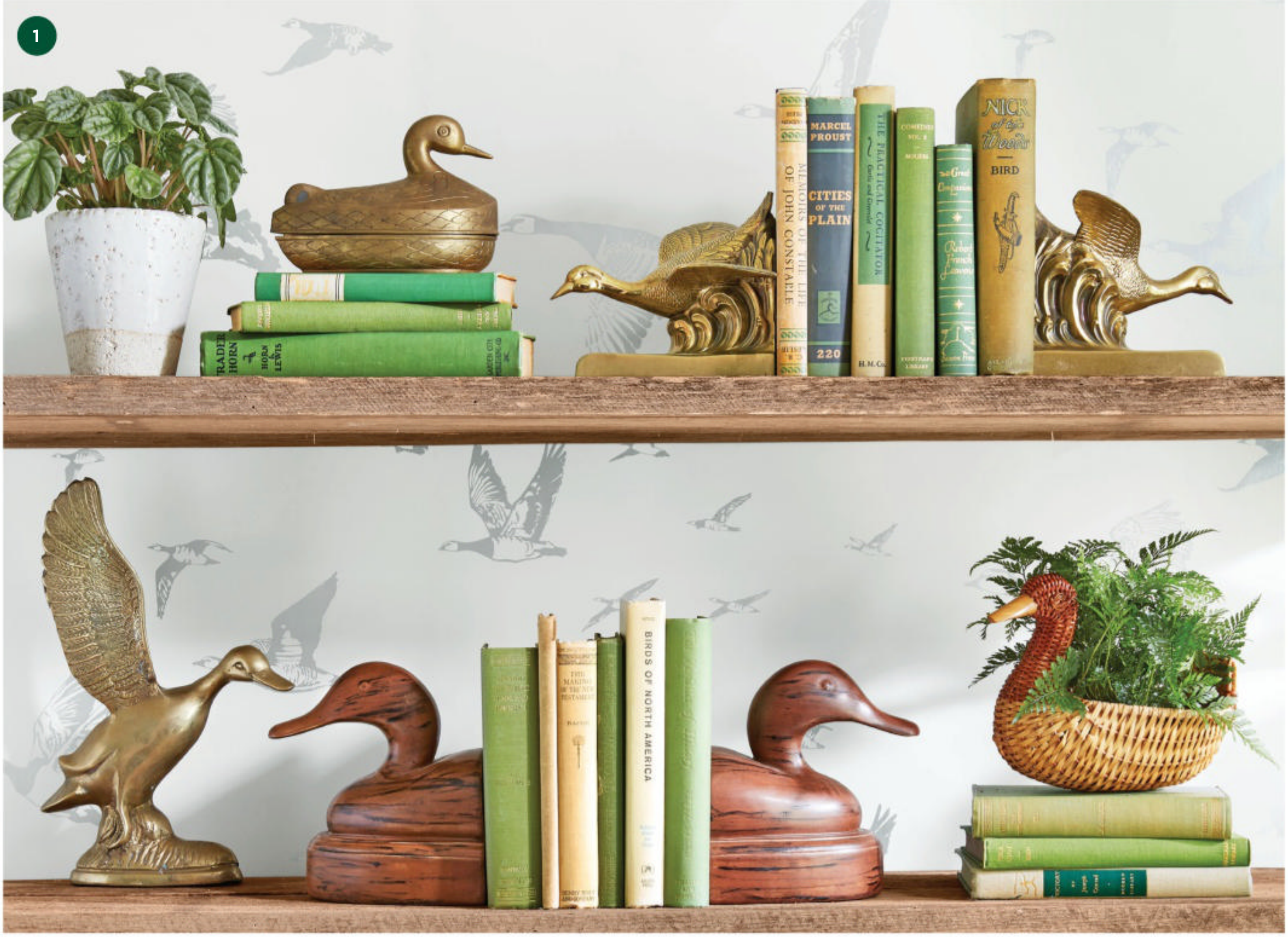
QUIRKY COLLECTIBLES

Surprising finds and unique interests can put an intriguing spin on collecting. These one-of-a-kind treasures are filled with character and are truly a collector's dream.

Quirky Collectibles

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

On a quest for rugged and refined vintage finds? From detailed decoys to brass bookends, these duck collectibles fill the bill.

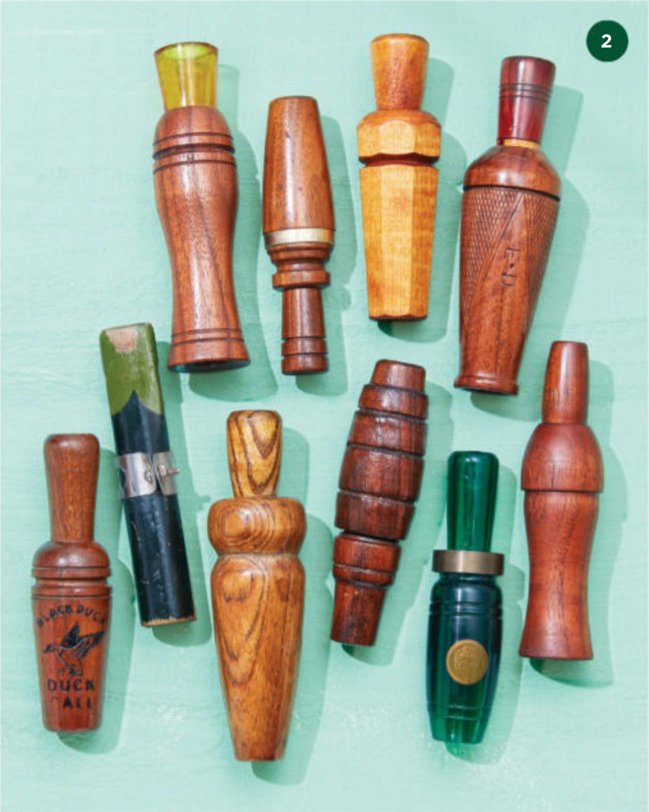


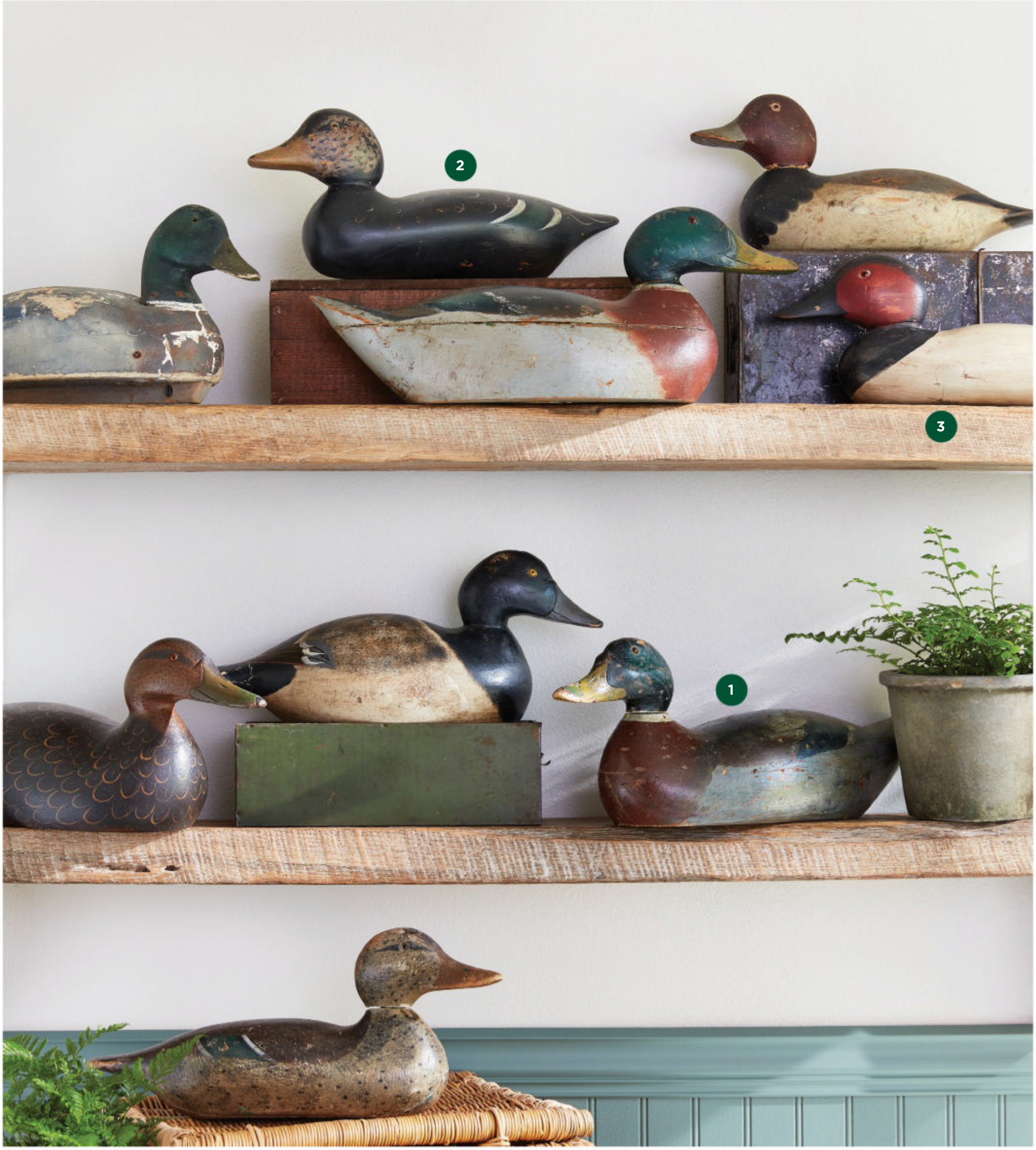
1. Bookends

The classic brass ducks became popular in the 1960s and can be found at flea markets and on vintage sites for anywhere from $50 to $275, depending on age and condition. Birds-in-flight versions (top right) or non-brass variations, like wood-painted ceramic (center), also make for fine complements to your field guides. Most are easily found on Etsy and eBay for $50 to $75.

2. Calls

Patented in the mid-1800s, duck calls have become as much art pieces as they are hunting tools. Styles by notable manufacturers (like Ken Martin, Black Duck, Earl Dennison, and Glynn Scobey) go for $100 to $500; others fall into the $50 to $75 range. (Try *dalesdecoyden.com* or *lavacreek.com* for a wide selection.) Look for maker monograms, intricate carvings, and painted designs, which up the value. To see calls in action, head to Stuttgart, Arkansas, in November for the annual World Championship Duck Calling Contest (*callingducks.com*).





Decoys

While decoy styles run the gamut of colors and materials, some of the highest-value birds come from Detroit's Mason Decoy Factory, where production was most active in the early 1900s. With realistic painting and attention to detail, these decoys came in three categories of performance grade: premier (1), challenge (2), and standard (3). The decoys above range from $250 to $950, with the premier grade at the pricier end. Rare models can garner hundreds of thousands of dollars at auctions.

Prints

From stately mallards to industrial patent designs, these framed feathered friends make the perfect addition to a rustic gallery wall. Scout pieces from famed artists like John James Audubon (1) and Arthur Nevin (2). While the originals are, of course, the most coveted, even prints can sell for hundreds of dollars. Balance it out with a textured duck cross-stitch (3) or a 20th-century patent print (4). The latter, at $15 per printed poster (*allposters.com*), offers the most bang for your bill.

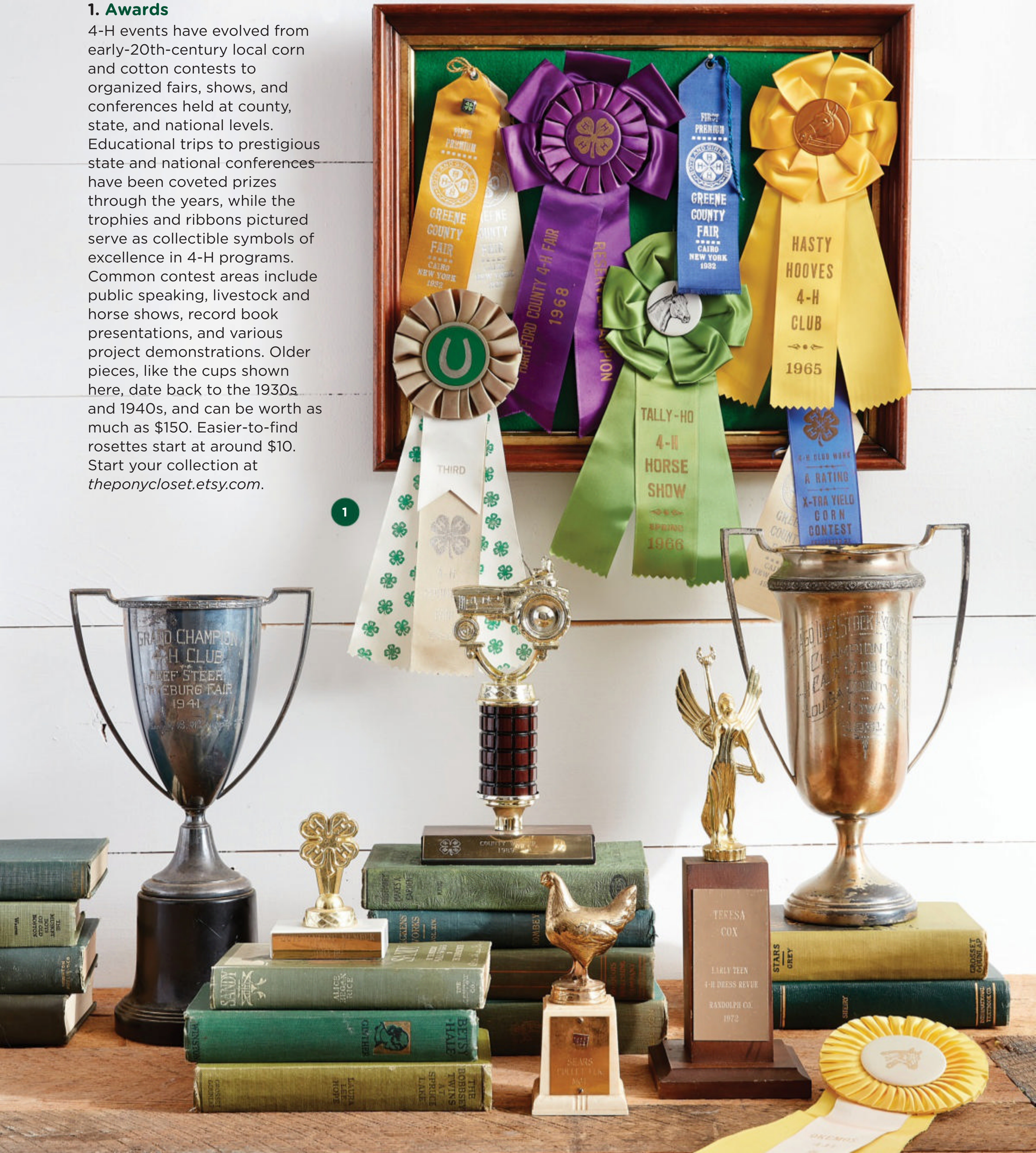
1
4
2
3
Jan. 29, 1952
G. L. HERTER
Des. 165,754
George L. Herter
Pintail Duck

Quirky Collectibles

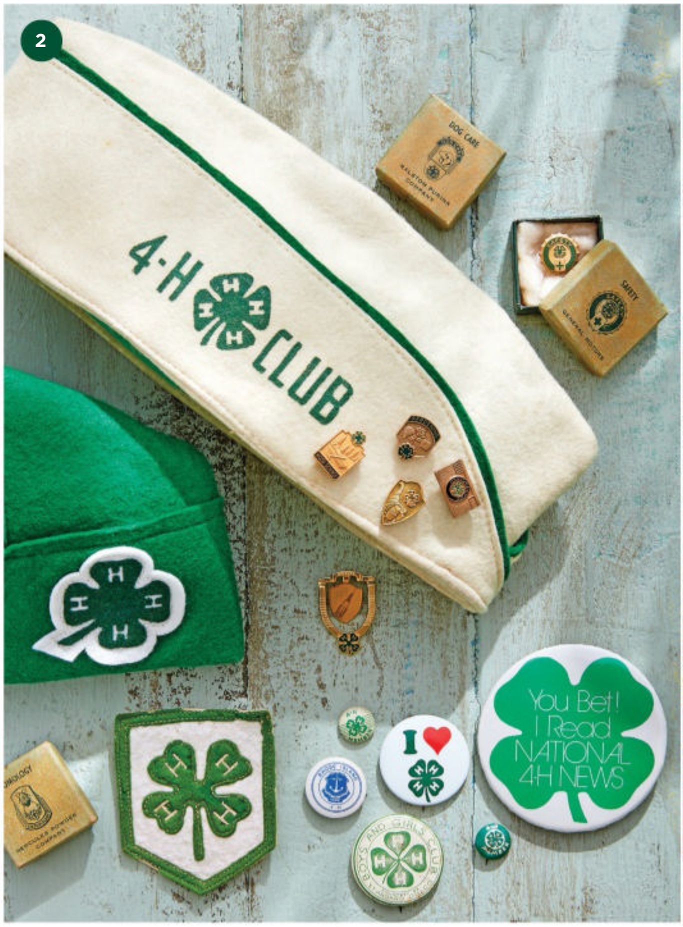
SEEING GREEN

Cultivate a clover-adorned collection of 4-H Club memorabilia spanning the organization's 100-year history.

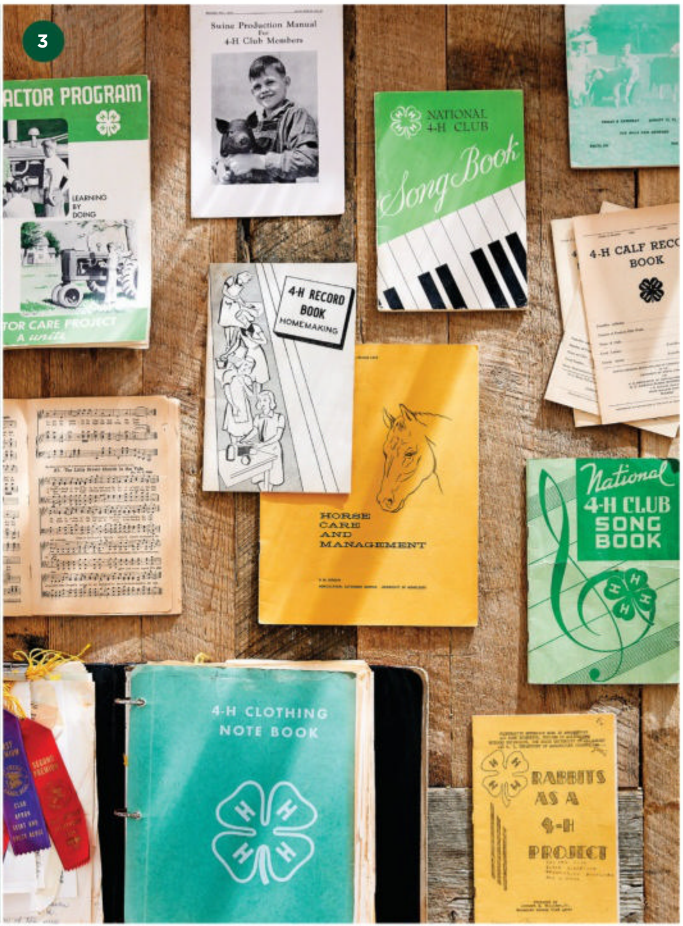
1. Awards
4-H events have evolved from early-20th-century local corn and cotton contests to organized fairs, shows, and conferences held at county, state, and national levels. Educational trips to prestigious state and national conferences have been coveted prizes through the years, while the trophies and ribbons pictured serve as collectible symbols of excellence in 4-H programs. Common contest areas include public speaking, livestock and horse shows, record book presentations, and various project demonstrations. Older pieces, like the cups shown here, date back to the 1930s and 1940s, and can be worth as much as $150. Easier-to-find rosettes start at around $10. Start your collection at *theponycloset.etsy.com*.



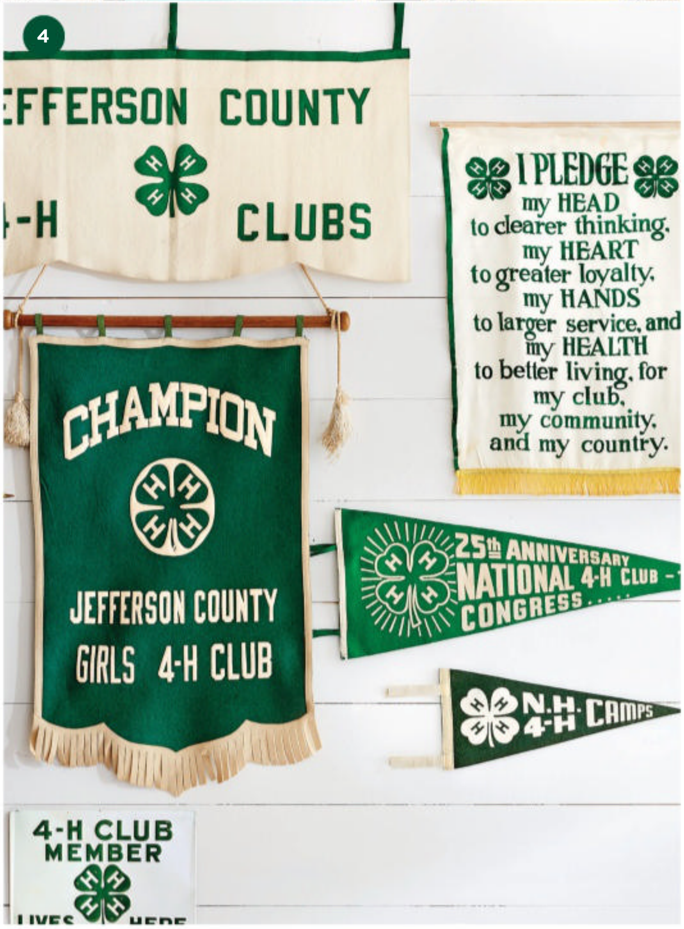
2


4-H CLUB
You Bet! I Read NATIONAL 4-H NEWS
DOG CARE
SAFETY

3


Swine Production Manual For 4-H Club Members
ACTOR PROGRAM
LEARNING BY DOING
NATIONAL 4-H CLUB Song Book
4-H CALF RECORD BOOK
4-H RECORD BOOK HOMEMAKING
HORSE CARE AND MANAGEMENT
National 4-H CLUB SONG BOOK
4-H CLOTHING NOTE BOOK
RABBITS AS A 4-H PROJECT

4


EFFERSON COUNTY -H CLUBS
I PLEDGE my HEAD to clearer thinking, my HEART to greater loyalty, my HANDS to larger service, and my HEALTH to better living, for my club, my community, and my country.
CHAMPION
JEFFERSON COUNTY GIRLS 4-H CLUB
25th ANNIVERSARY NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CONGRESS
N.H. 4-H CAMPS
4-H CLUB MEMBER LIVES HERE

2. Buttons & Medals

Intricate brass and enamel merit pins date back to 1909 and are traditionally awarded upon project completion and program mastery. 4-H programs run the gamut from rice cookery and rabbit-showing to aeronautics and dog care, with a more recent focus on STEM areas. Medals were worn and collected as keepsakes. Buttons served as alternate signs of club pride. You can find most of these for $10 to $15 apiece on Etsy.

3. Books & Manuals

These bindings usually fall into one of three categories.

Songbooks: First printed in 1929, the 4-H songbook has been redesigned through the years, but the melodies remain mostly the same.

Personal logbooks: Cherished individual record books (bottom left) represent years of hard work and are the hardest to come by because few members part with them due to their sentimentality.

Project booklets: Smaller, more readily available instruction manuals (bottom right) detail specific project requirements and results.

4. Signs & Banners

Sporty pennants commemorate meetings such as the annual National 4-H Congress, which was held in Chicago and briefly in Memphis before landing in Atlanta in 1998. Other banners celebrate state-level accomplishments, club pride, or the motto "To make the best better." The pledge originated in 1927 and remained unchanged until 1973, when the words "and my world" were added.

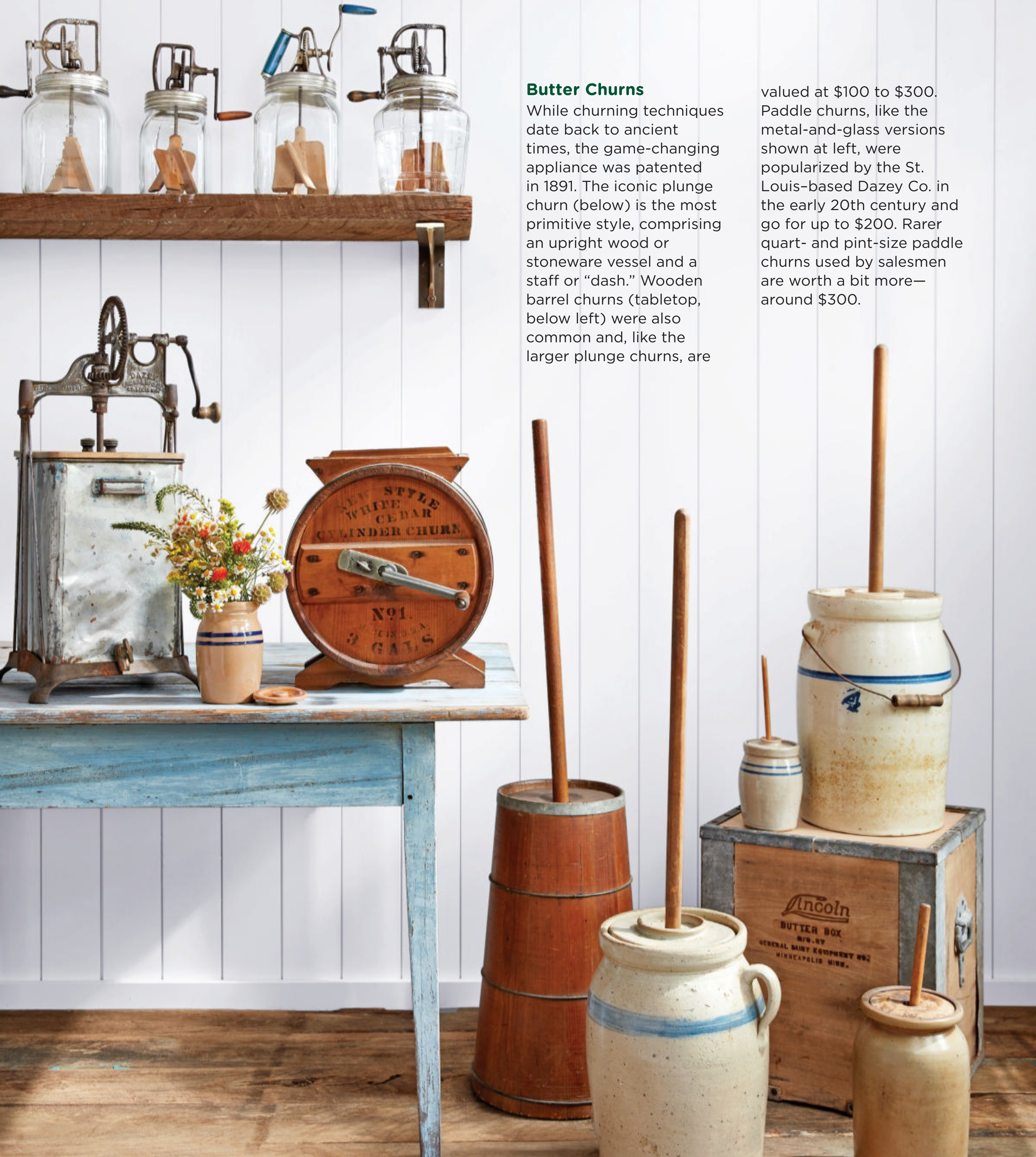
Quirky Collectibles

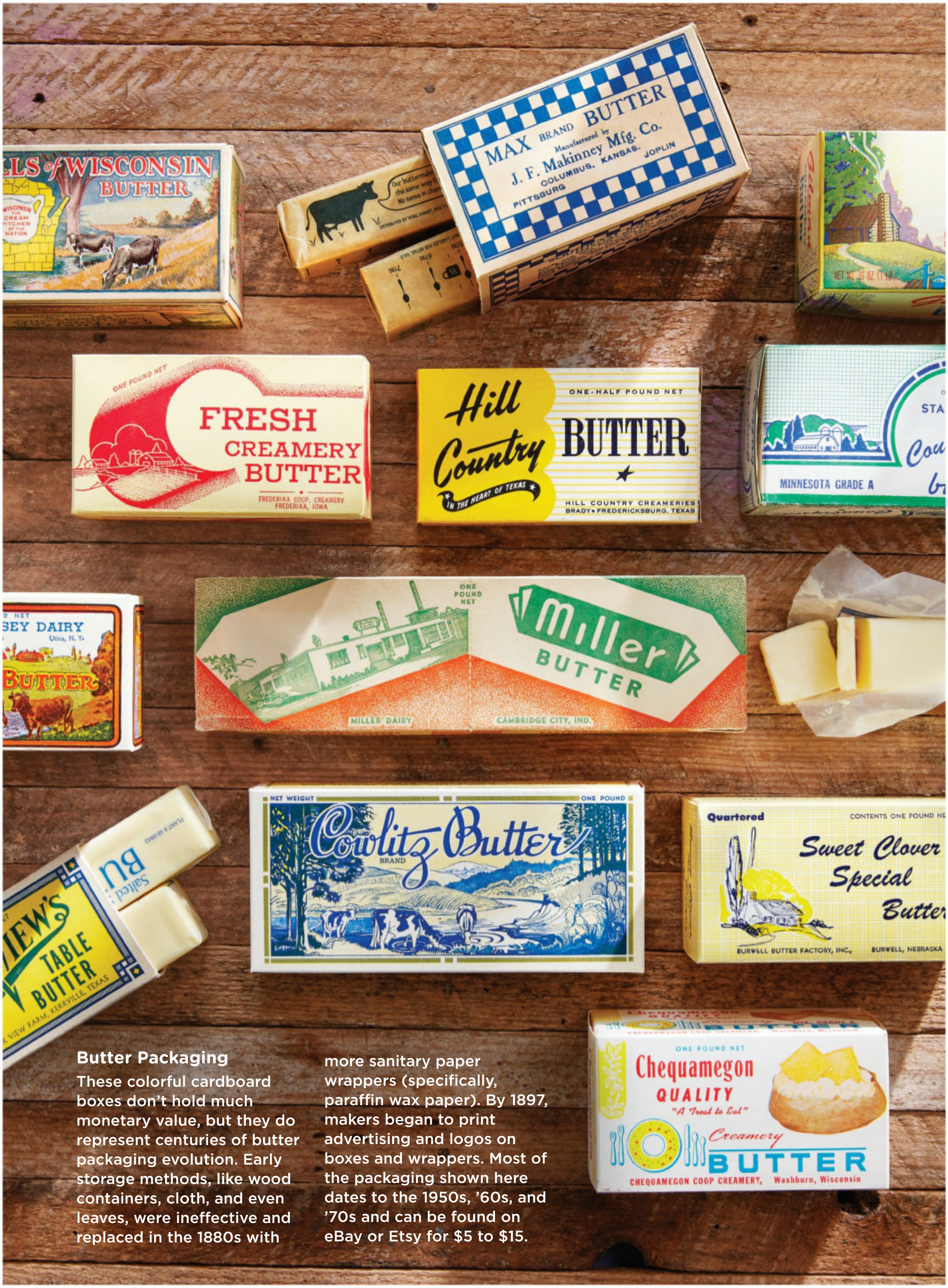
CREAM OF THE CROP

Whip up a distinctly country collection with this buttery spread of farmhouse staples. Here's how to get the basics down pat.

Butter Churns

While churning techniques date back to ancient times, the game-changing appliance was patented in 1891. The iconic plunge churn (below) is the most primitive style, comprising an upright wood or stoneware vessel and a staff or "dash." Wooden barrel churns (tabletop, below left) were also common and, like the larger plunge churns, are valued at $100 to $300. Paddle churns, like the metal-and-glass versions shown at left, were popularized by the St. Louis–based Dazey Co. in the early 20th century and go for up to $200. Rarer quart- and pint-size paddle churns used by salesmen are worth a bit more—around $300.


NEW STYLE
WHITE CEDAR
CYLINDER CHURN
Nº1.
3 GALS
Lincoln
BUTTER BOX
MFG. BY
GENERAL DAIRY EQUIPMENT CO.
MINNEAPOLIS MINN.
4


MAX BRAND BUTTER
Manufactured by J. F. Makinney Mfg. Co.
COLUMBUS, KANSAS. JOPLIN PITTSBURG
FRESH CREAMERY BUTTER
ONE POUND NET
FREDERIKA COOP. CREAMERY FREDERIKA, IOWA
Hill Country
IN THE HEART OF TEXAS
ONE-HALF POUND NET
BUTTER
HILL COUNTRY CREAMERIES
BRADY • FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS
MINNESOTA GRADE A
ONE POUND NET
Miller BUTTER
MILLER DAIRY
CAMBRIDGE CITY, IND.
NET WEIGHT
ONE POUND
Cowlitz Butter
BRAND
Quartered
Sweet Clover Special
BURWELL BUTTER FACTORY, INC.
BURWELL, NEBRASKA
TABLE BUTTER
ONE POUND NET
Chequamegon QUALITY
"A Treat to Eat"
Creamery BUTTER
CHEQUAMEGON COOP CREAMERY, Washburn, Wisconsin

Butter Packaging

These colorful cardboard boxes don't hold much monetary value, but they do represent centuries of butter packaging evolution. Early storage methods, like wood containers, cloth, and even leaves, were ineffective and replaced in the 1880s with more sanitary paper wrappers (specifically, paraffin wax paper). By 1897, makers began to print advertising and logos on boxes and wrappers. Most of the packaging shown here dates to the 1950s, '60s, and '70s and can be found on eBay or Etsy for $5 to $15.

1

1. Butter Pats

From simple ironstone to gold-rimmed florals, these tiny treasures have infused ordinary table settings with Victorian elegance since their heyday in the 1890s and 1900s. Most measure just 2 or 3 inches in diameter, making them ideal items for beginner collectors. Elite enthusiasts hunt for Staffordshire (English) and Haviland (French) pats, and at $10 apiece, they're much more affordable than full china sets by these famed manufacturers.

2. Butter Crocks

When butter became a household staple in the late 1700s, it was stored in cloth-covered wooden containers—not ideal for preserving the salty commodity. Storage solutions arrived soon after, with the introduction of lidded stoneware crocks in redware, yellowware, spongeware, and other styles. Pieces labeled with brand advertising or etched with the word "butter" are pricier (up to $140) than their plain counterparts.

3. Butter Molds

Though not used regularly today, these wooden plunger-and-cup molds once added artistic flair to plain old tabletop butter. The hand-carved designs found on the plunger (think flowers, graphic patterns, animals) make for pretty kitchen displays, but be warned: The molds' primitive pedigree makes them pricey. Asking prices at antiques stores and online vendors range from $25 to $150, depending on size and condition.

2
WILLOW FARM PRODUCTS
CREAMERY
MICHIGAN
Kaukauna Klub
KAUKAUNA DAIRY COMPANY KAUKAUNA, WISCONSIN
12¢ DEPOSIT
Lambrecht BUTTER
"Famous for its Flavor"
NEW JERSEY
Lightfoot
15¢ DEPOSIT
WILLOWAY MANOR FARM FRESH BUTTER

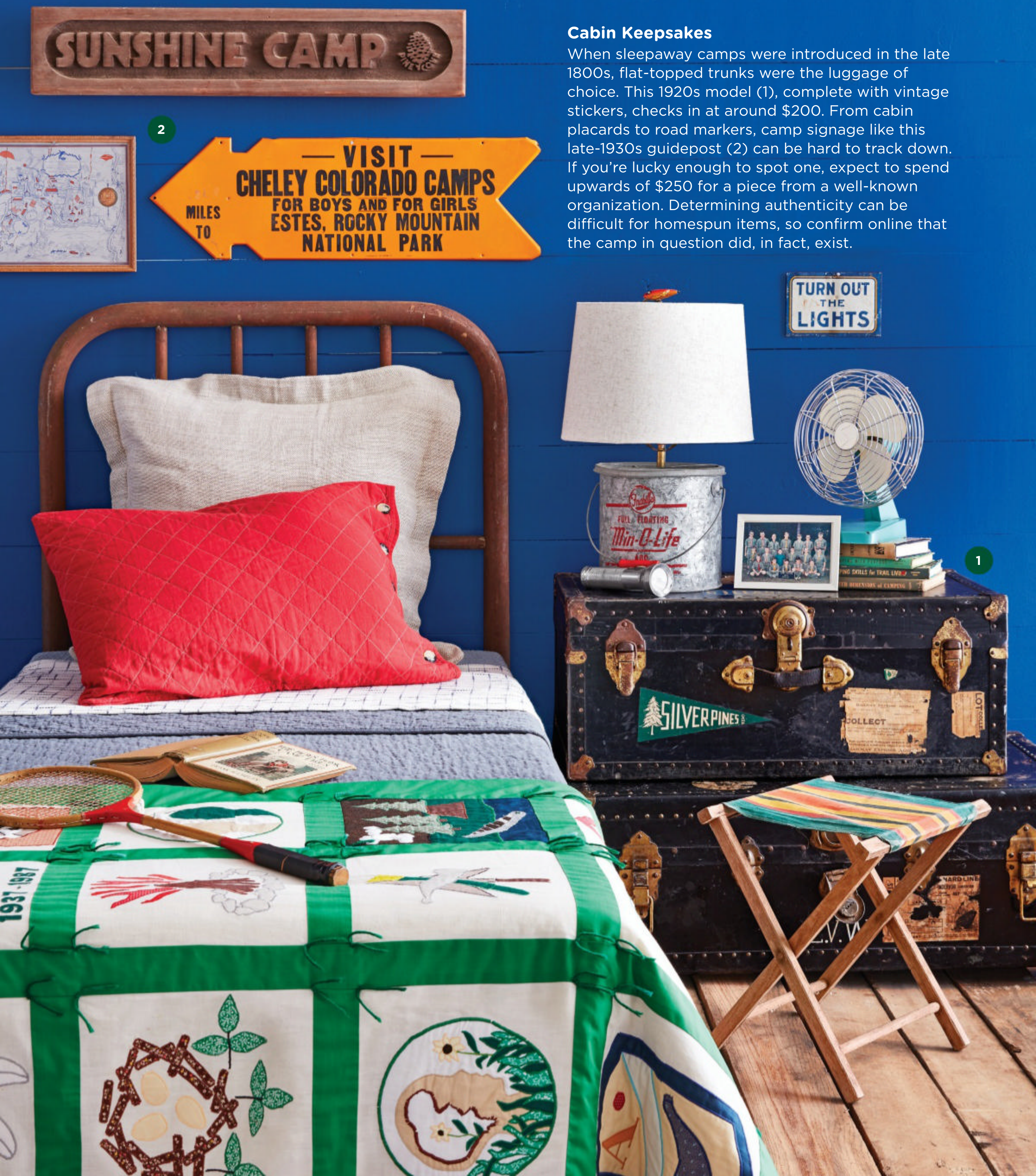
Quirky Collectibles

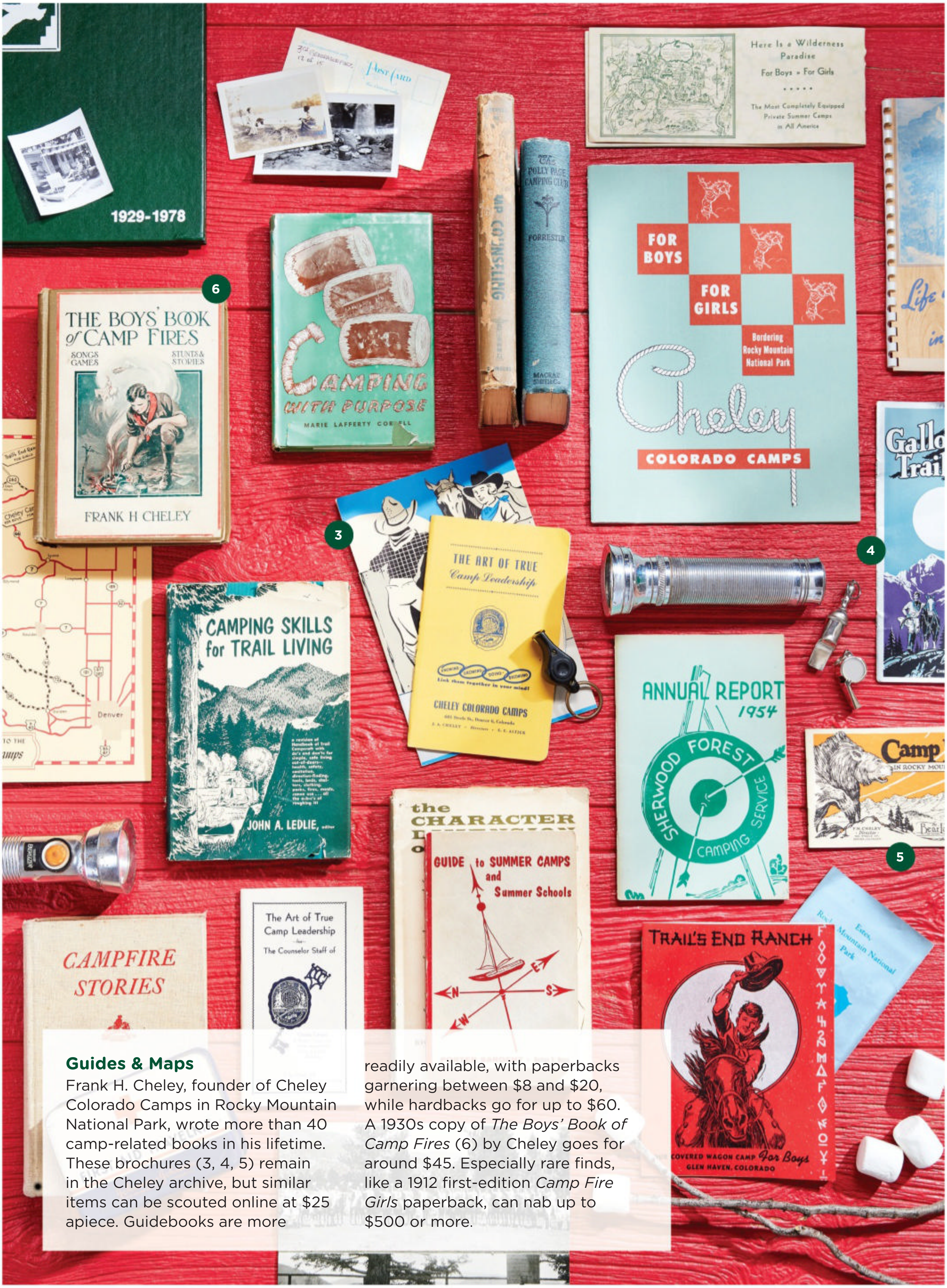
SLEEPAWAY CAMP

Dear Mom and Dad: Please send ample funds for a cabin-themed antiquing excursion.

Cabin Keepsakes

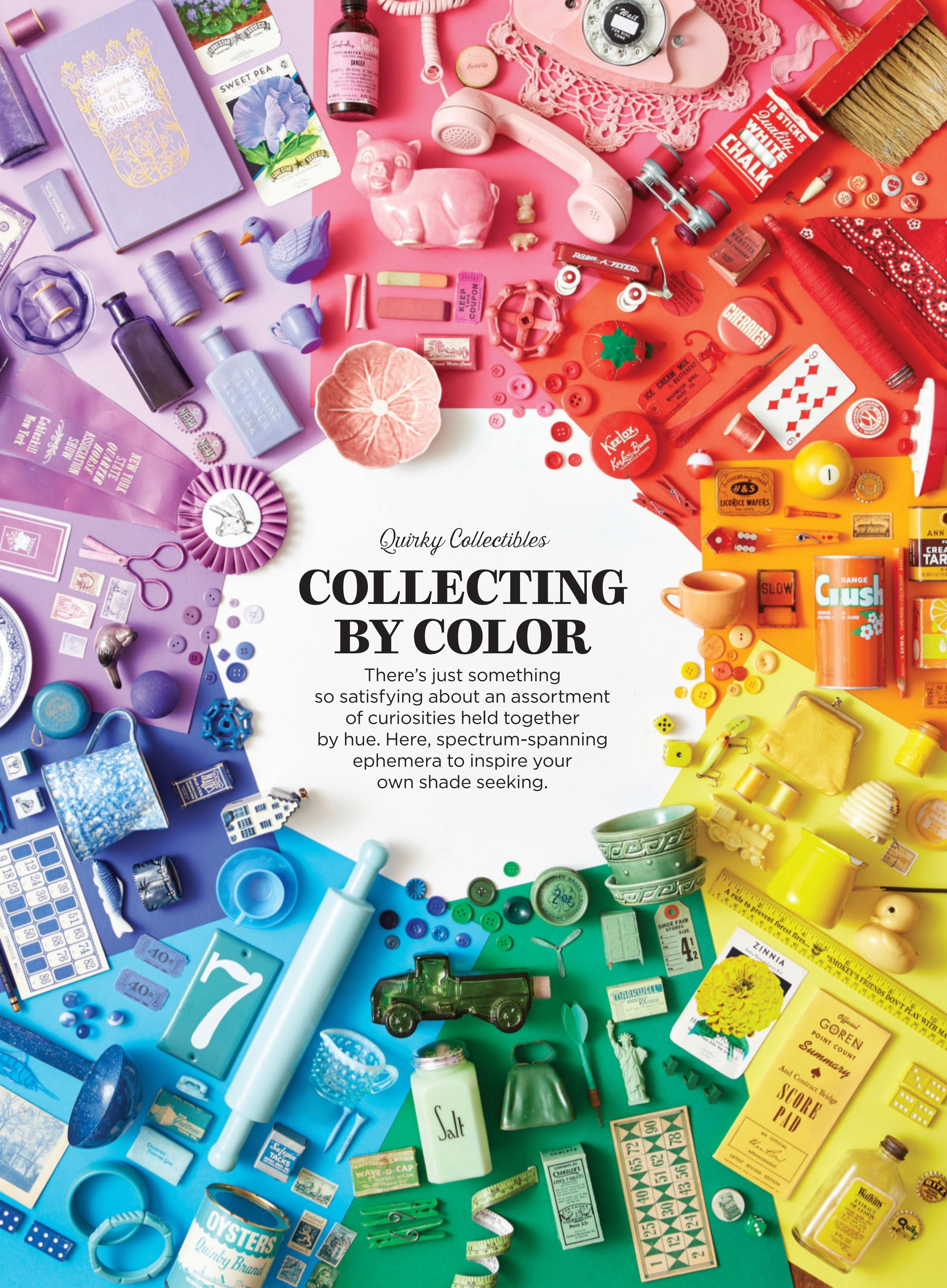
When sleepaway camps were introduced in the late 1800s, flat-topped trunks were the luggage of choice. This 1920s model (1), complete with vintage stickers, checks in at around $200. From cabin placards to road markers, camp signage like this late-1930s guidepost (2) can be hard to track down. If you're lucky enough to spot one, expect to spend upwards of $250 for a piece from a well-known organization. Determining authenticity can be difficult for homespun items, so confirm online that the camp in question did, in fact, exist.


SUNSHINE CAMP
2
VISIT
CHELEY COLORADO CAMPS
FOR BOYS AND FOR GIRLS
ESTES, ROCKY MOUNTAIN
NATIONAL PARK
MILES TO
TURN OUT THE LIGHTS
Min-O-Life
1
SILVERPINES


1929-1978
6
THE BOYS' BOOK of CAMP FIRES
SONGS GAMES
STUNTS & STORIES
FRANK H CHELEY
CAMPING WITH PURPOSE
MARIE LAFFERTY CORNELL
THE POLLY PAGE CAMPING CLUB
FORRESTER
Here Is a Wilderness Paradise
For Boys • For Girls
The Most Completely Equipped Private Summer Camps in All America
FOR BOYS
FOR GIRLS
Bordering Rocky Mountain National Park
Cheley
COLORADO CAMPS
3
THE ART OF TRUE Camp Leadership
CHELEY COLORADO CAMPS
4
CAMPING SKILLS for TRAIL LIVING
JOHN A. LEDLIE
ANNUAL REPORT 1954
SHERWOOD FOREST CAMPING SERVICE
Camp
5
the CHARACTER
GUIDE to SUMMER CAMPS and Summer Schools
CAMPFIRE STORIES
The Art of True Camp Leadership
The Counselor Staff of
TRAIL'S END RANCH
COVERED WAGON CAMP For Boys
GLEN HAVEN, COLORADO
Estes Mountain National Park
Denver

Guides & Maps

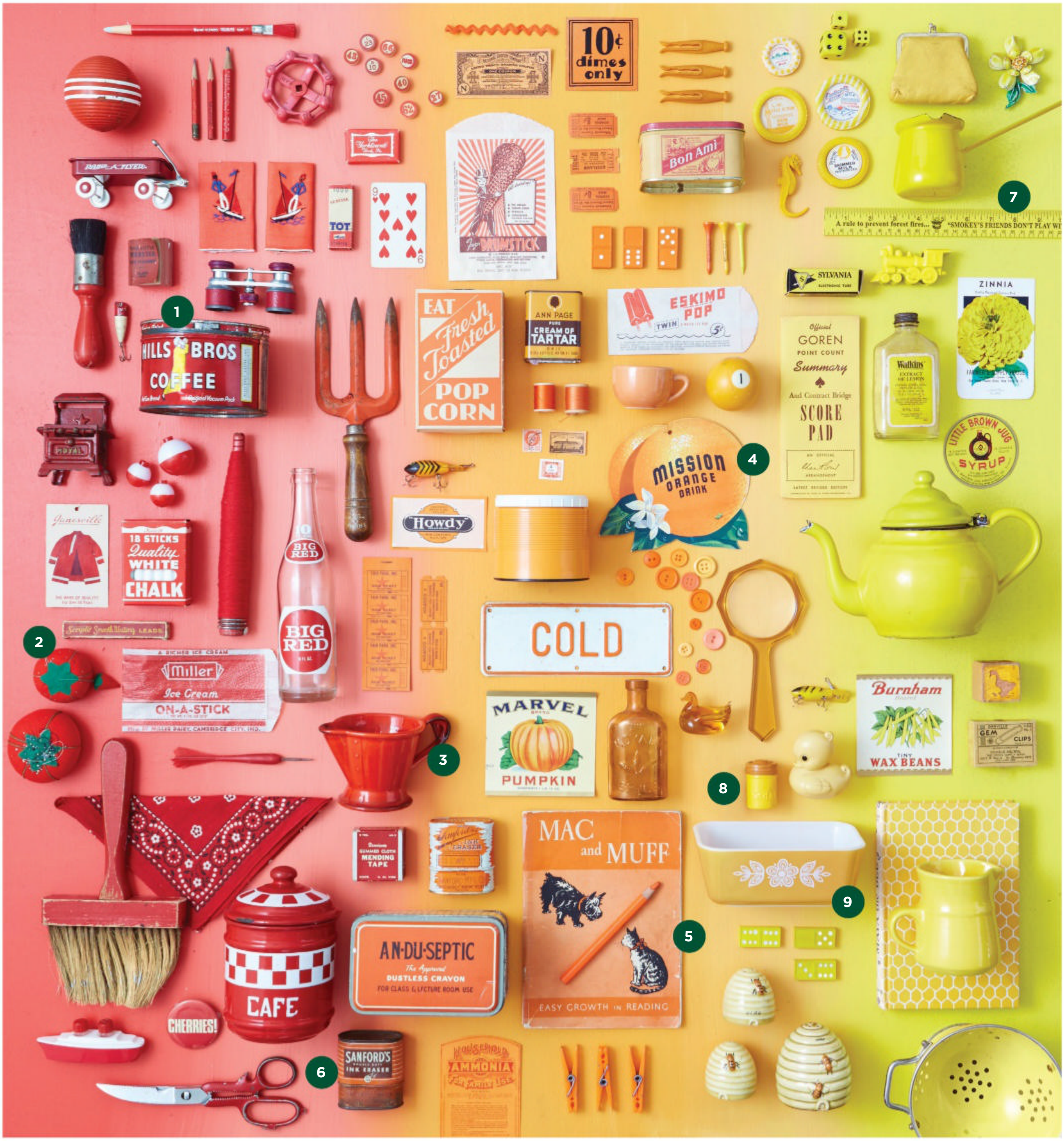
Frank H. Cheley, founder of Cheley Colorado Camps in Rocky Mountain National Park, wrote more than 40 camp-related books in his lifetime. These brochures (3, 4, 5) remain in the Cheley archive, but similar items can be scouted online at $25 apiece. Guidebooks are more readily available, with paperbacks garnering between $8 and $20, while hardbacks go for up to $60. A 1930s copy of *The Boys' Book of Camp Fires* (6) by Cheley goes for around $45. Especially rare finds, like a 1912 first-edition *Camp Fire Girls* paperback, can nab up to $500 or more.


Lavender & Old Lace
SWEET PEA
LONESTAR SEED CO.
Solvent
DANGER
Wait FOR DIAL TONE
18 STICKS Quality WHITE CHALK
RADIO FLYER
KEEP THIS COUPON
CHERRIES!
ICE CREAM MIX
KEE LOX
NEW YORK STATE QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION SHOW
Cobleskill New York
Y&S LICORICE WAFERS
SLOW
ORANGE Crush
A rule to prevent forest fires... "SMOKEY'S FRIENDS DON'T PLAY WITH MATCHES"
ZINNIA
Official GOREN POINT COUNT Summary And Contract Bridge SCORE PAD
Watkins EXTRACT OF LEMON
SHOE FAIR STORES SIZE 4½
MARKWELL
Salt
WAVE-O-CAP
OYSTERS Quinby Brand
Safepin TACKS
7
40¢

Quirky Collectibles

COLLECTING BY COLOR

There's just something so satisfying about an assortment of curiosities held together by hue. Here, spectrum-spanning ephemera to inspire your own shade seeking.



Red

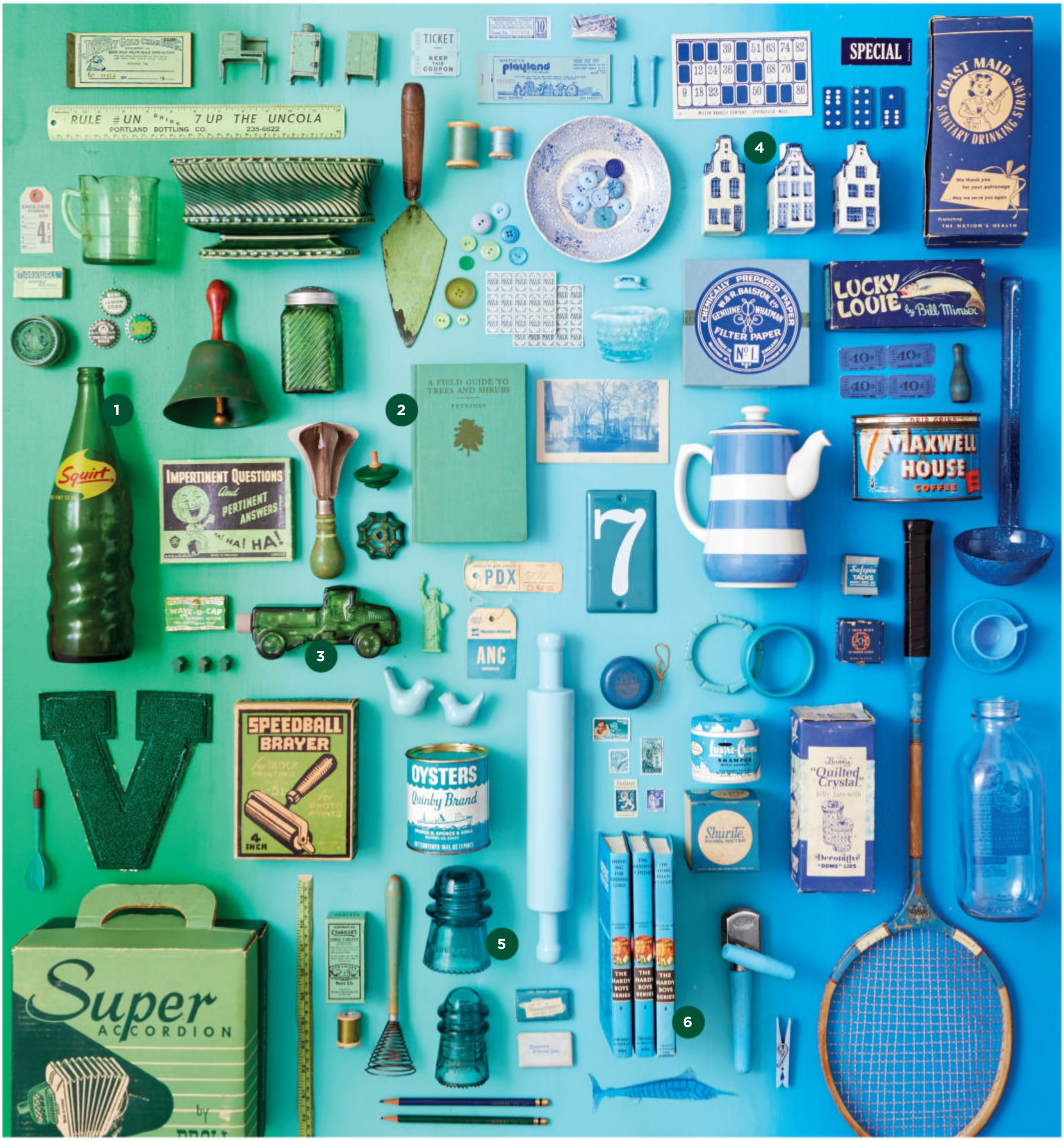
Seen on everything from bandanas to bottles, this iconic country color warms up a room. **Get started:** Founded in 1878, Hills Bros. Coffee (1) pioneered vacuum-packing methods via telltale red tins. Tomato pincushions (2) became popular in the Victorian era as a substitute for real-deal tomatoes gifted to ward off evil spirits. Metlox's "Red Medallion" pottery (3) is just one coveted line from the defunct factory.

Orange

A shot of the citrusy hue has been noted to boost energy. **Get started:** Mission Orange (4) was the flagship drink of the California Crushed Fruit Company. The *Mac and Muff* primer (5) was the first (and the orangest) in Gertrude Hildreth's learn-to-read series. Before Chicago's Sanford Ink Company created the Sharpie in 1964, its orange-labeled ink and eraser products (6) were deskside staples.

Yellow

A burst of sunshine can brighten any space. **Get started:** Lemon-hued rulers (7) were one of many items that touted Smokey Bear's fire-prevention slogan. Kodak's iconic gold-adorned canisters (8) were used to store their Kodachrome film in the 1950s. Pyrex's Butterfly Gold pattern (9) was released twice, in 1972 and 1979, as a counterpart to Corelle's 1970 pattern of the same name.

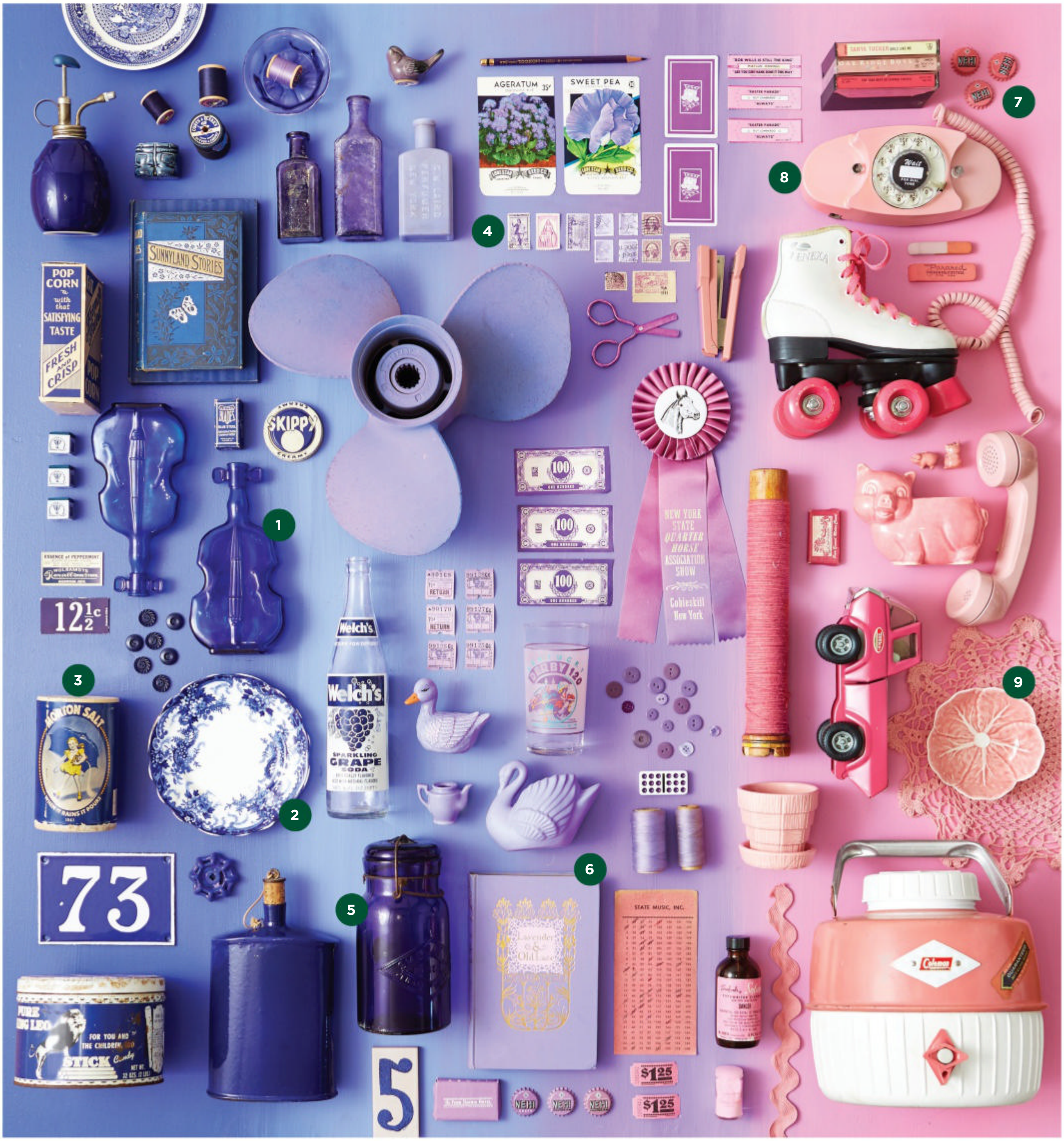


Green

This fresh, foresty shade colors everything from Monopoly pieces to salt shakers. **Get started:** Created as a Depression-era alternative to sugary sodas, Squirt's grapefruit drink (1) boasted a deep-green bottle. Roger Tory Peterson's field guides (2), first published in 1934, are still in print—though vintage green bindings are harder to find. Avon sold cosmetics in collectible bottles (3) like this late-1960s vehicle series.

Blue

The country classic is a favorite of the coastal set. **Get started:** KLM (Royal Dutch Airlines) released its first mini Delft houses (4) in 1952 and adds to the lineup annually. Glass insulators (5) separated wires from telephone poles and multiplied in the 1920s as electricity expanded to rural areas. Created by Edward Stratemeyer in 1926, the *Hardy Boys* books (6) were ghostwritten under the pseudonym Franklin W. Dixon.



Indigo

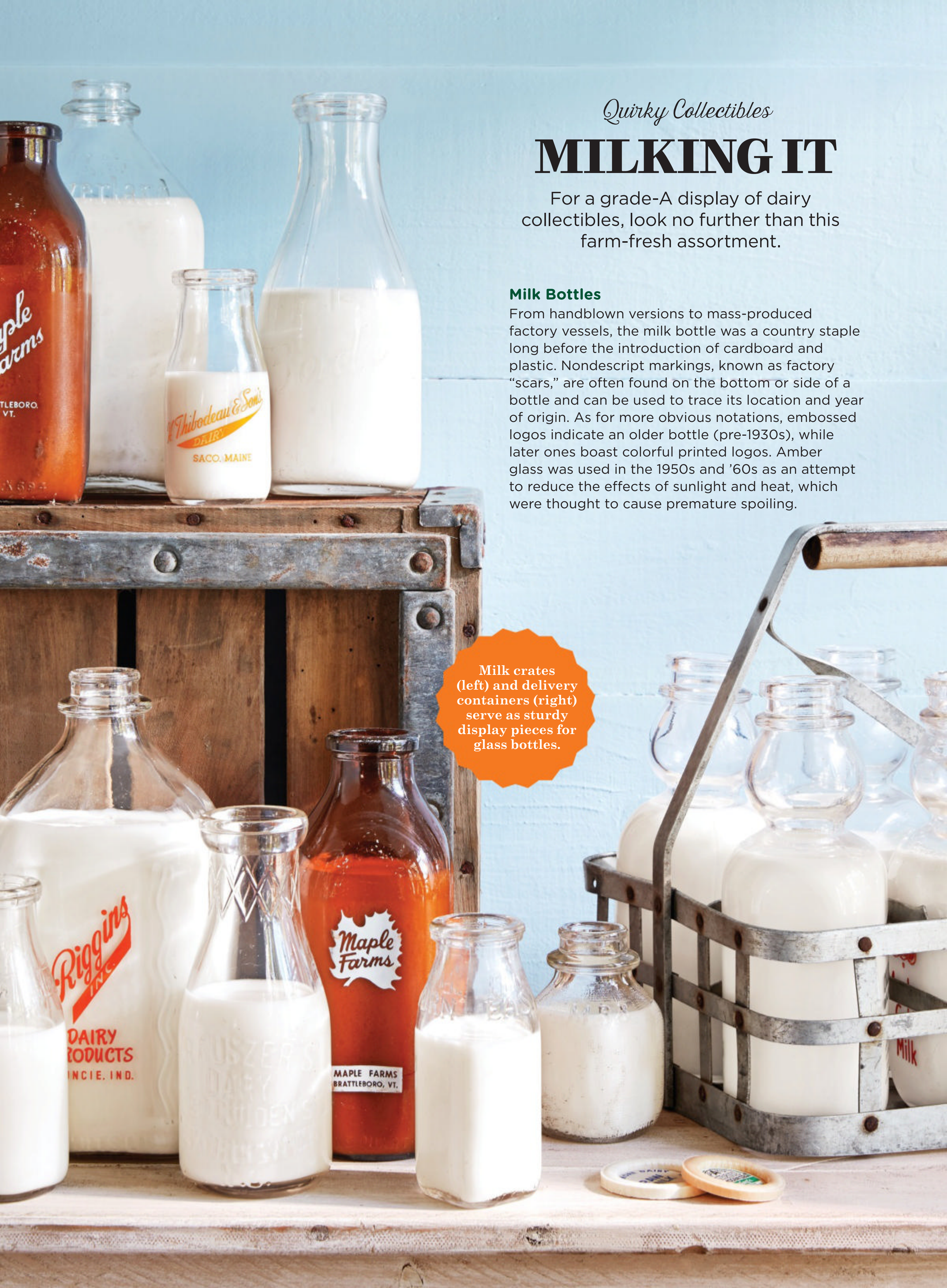
Denim lovers, rejoice. This transitional hue is as timeless as a pair of jeans. **Get started:** Violin bottles, or "viobots," (1) date to the 1930s. Cobalt versions are easiest to snag. Transferware (2) is a must-have for indigo dining displays. The Morton Salt Girl (3) has been the brand's icon since 1911. Her yellow dress debuted in 1914 and altered the all-blue label forever.

Violet

From lilac to grape, these royal hues lend a collection depth and dignity. **Get started:** Plum postage stamps (4) featuring Queen Elizabeth II were distributed in the U.K. in the 1960s and '70s. A.G. Smalley designed the "Nu-Seal" canning jar (5) in 1912. Myrtle Reed's *Lavender & Old Lace* (6) first brightened bookshelves in 1902.

Pink

Decidedly dainty scores make for sweet objets on a daughter's desk. **Get started:** These pink caps (7) topped 1970s bottles of Nehi Bottling Co.'s peach soda. Introduced by Bell in 1959, the Princess phone (8) was sold in a range of colors, including the popular baby pink. Lettuceware's long-lost cousin cabbageware (9) was made in Portugal by Bordallo Pinheiro.


W. Thibodeau & Sons
DAIRY
SACO, MAINE
Riggins
INC.
DAIRY
PRODUCTS
Maple Farms
MAPLE FARMS
BRATTLEBORO, VT.
Milk

Quirky Collectibles

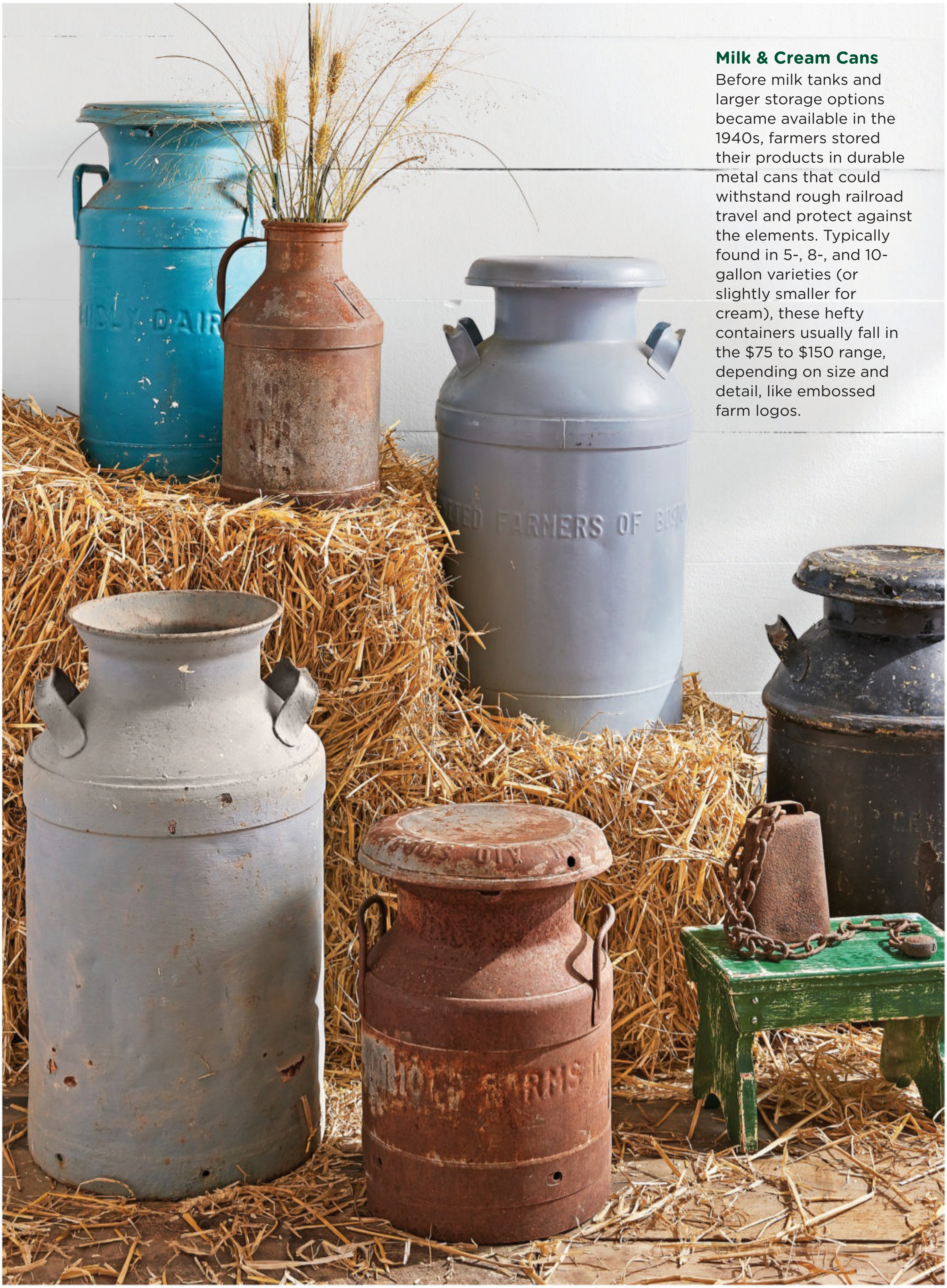
MILKING IT

For a grade-A display of dairy collectibles, look no further than this farm-fresh assortment.

Milk Bottles

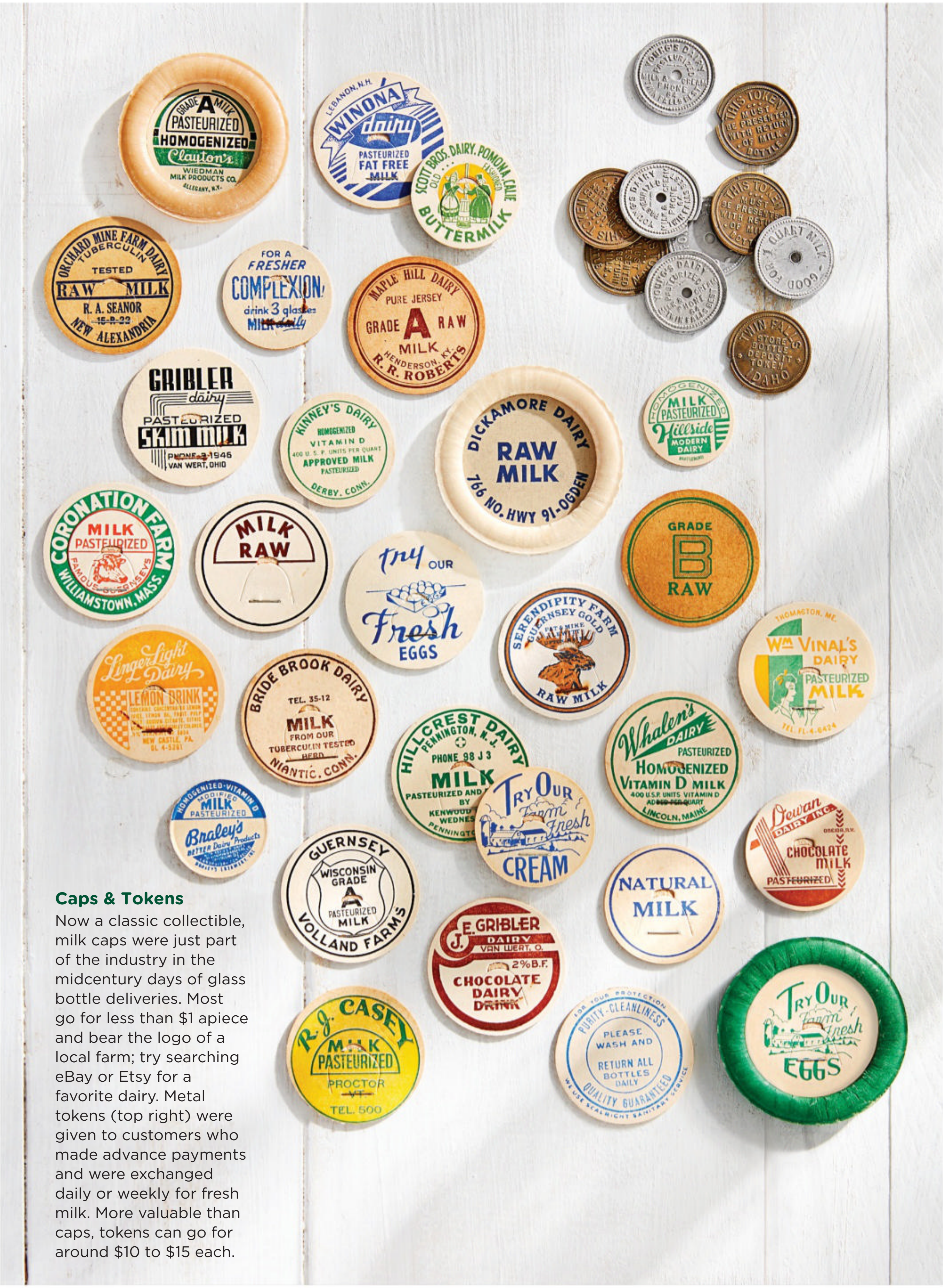
From handblown versions to mass-produced factory vessels, the milk bottle was a country staple long before the introduction of cardboard and plastic. Nondescript markings, known as factory "scars," are often found on the bottom or side of a bottle and can be used to trace its location and year of origin. As for more obvious notations, embossed logos indicate an older bottle (pre-1930s), while later ones boast colorful printed logos. Amber glass was used in the 1950s and '60s as an attempt to reduce the effects of sunlight and heat, which were thought to cause premature spoiling.

Milk crates (left) and delivery containers (right) serve as sturdy display pieces for glass bottles.



Milk & Cream Cans

Before milk tanks and larger storage options became available in the 1940s, farmers stored their products in durable metal cans that could withstand rough railroad travel and protect against the elements. Typically found in 5-, 8-, and 10-gallon varieties (or slightly smaller for cream), these hefty containers usually fall in the $75 to $150 range, depending on size and detail, like embossed farm logos.

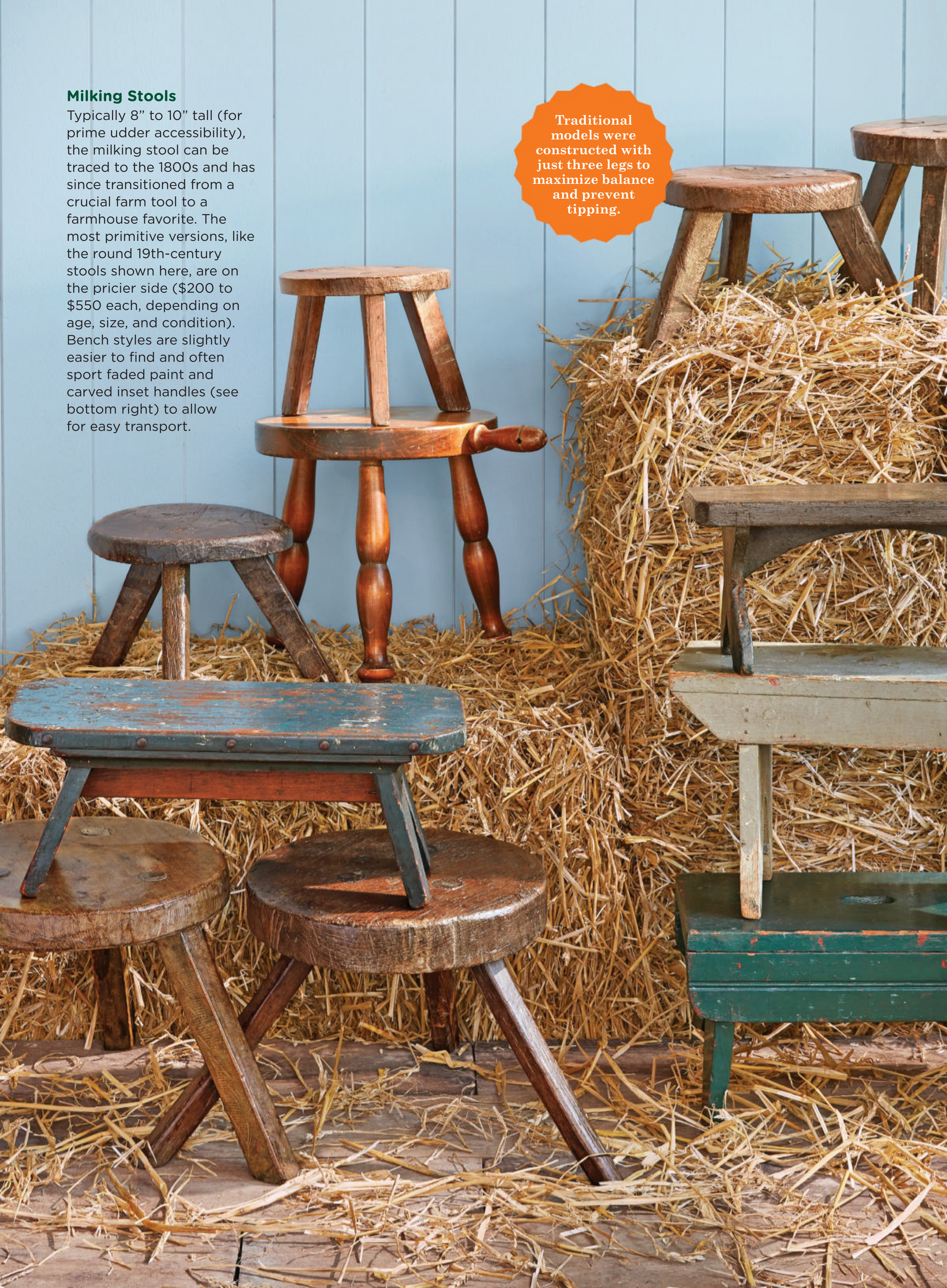

Grade A Milk Pasteurized Homogenized Clayton's Wiedman Milk Products Co. Allegany, N.Y.
Lebanon, N.H. Winona dairy Pasteurized Fat Free Milk
Scott Bros. Dairy, Pomona, Calif. Old Fashioned Buttermilk
Orchard Mine Farm Dairy Tuberculin Tested Raw Milk R. A. Seanor New Alexandria
For a Fresher Complexion drink 3 glasses Milk daily
Maple Hill Dairy Pure Jersey Grade A Raw Milk R. R. Roberts Henderson, Ky.
Gribler dairy Pasteurized Skim Milk Van Wert, Ohio
Kinney's Dairy Homogenized Vitamin D Approved Milk Pasteurized Derby, Conn.
Dickamore Dairy Raw Milk 766 No. Hwy 91-Ogden
Milk Pasteurized Hillside Modern Dairy
Coronation Farm Milk Pasteurized Famous Guernseys Williamstown, Mass.
Milk Raw
Try our Fresh Eggs
Grade B Raw
Serendipity Farm Guernsey Gold Raw Milk
Linger Light Dairy Lemon Drink New Castle, Pa.
Bride Brook Dairy Tel. 35-12 Milk from our Tuberculin Tested Herd Niantic, Conn.
Hillcrest Dairy Pennington, N.J. Phone 98 J 3 Milk Pasteurized and Bottled by Kenwood
Try Our Farm Fresh Cream
Wm Vinal's Dairy Thomaston, Me. Pasteurized Milk
Whalen's Dairy Pasteurized Homogenized Vitamin D Milk Lincoln, Maine
Homogenized-Vitamin D Modified Milk Pasteurized Braley's Better Dairy Products
Guernsey Wisconsin Grade A Pasteurized Milk Volland Farms
J. E. Gribler Dairy Van Wert, O. 2% B.F. Chocolate Dairy Drink
Natural Milk
Dewan Dairy Inc. Oneida, N.Y. Chocolate Milk Pasteurized
R. J. Casey Milk Pasteurized Proctor Vt. Tel. 500
For Your Protection Purity-Cleanliness Please Wash and Return All Bottles Daily Quality Guaranteed
Try Our Farm Fresh Eggs
This Token Must Be Presented With Return of Milk Bottle
Good for 1 Quart Milk
Twin Falls Store's Bottle Deposit Token Idaho

Caps & Tokens

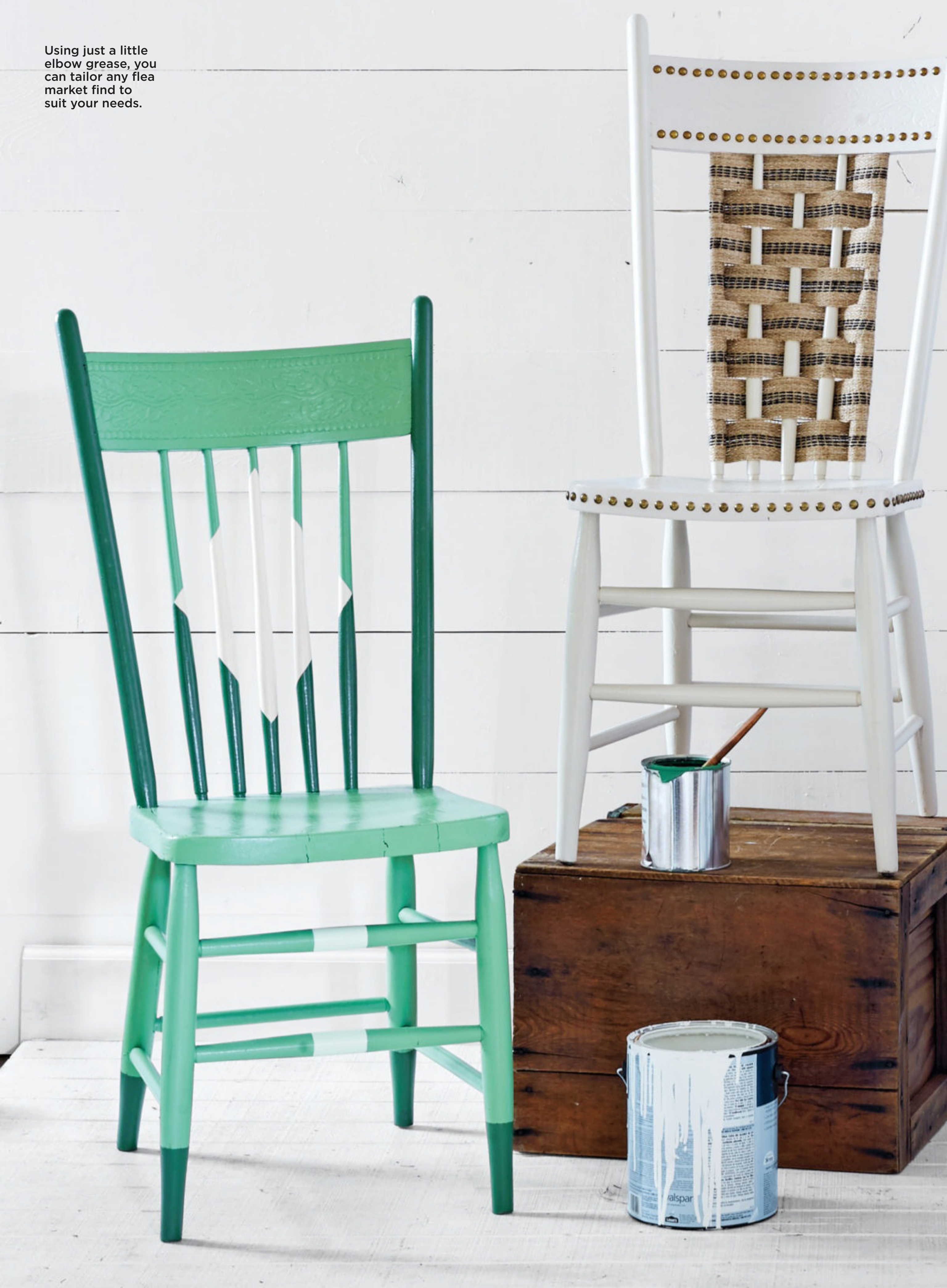
Now a classic collectible, milk caps were just part of the industry in the midcentury days of glass bottle deliveries. Most go for less than $1 apiece and bear the logo of a local farm; try searching eBay or Etsy for a favorite dairy. Metal tokens (top right) were given to customers who made advance payments and were exchanged daily or weekly for fresh milk. More valuable than caps, tokens can go for around $10 to $15 each.

Milking Stools

Typically 8” to 10” tall (for prime udder accessibility), the milking stool can be traced to the 1800s and has since transitioned from a crucial farm tool to a farmhouse favorite. The most primitive versions, like the round 19th-century stools shown here, are on the pricier side ($200 to $550 each, depending on age, size, and condition). Bench styles are slightly easier to find and often sport faded paint and carved inset handles (see bottom right) to allow for easy transport.



Traditional models were constructed with just three legs to maximize balance and prevent tipping.



Using just a little elbow grease, you can tailor any flea market find to suit your needs.

Chapter 3

OLD FIND, NEW USE

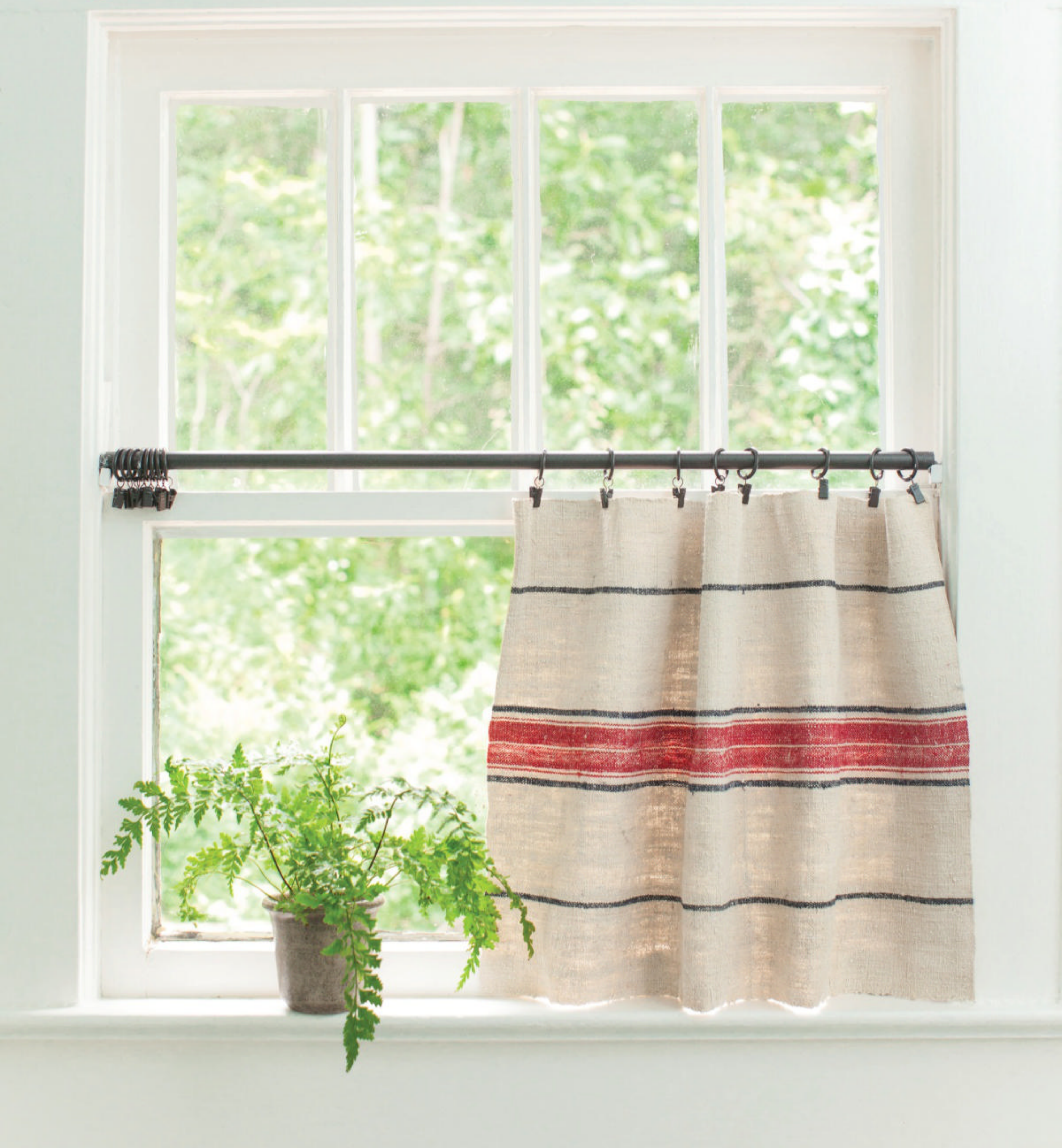
With a little imagination and some crafting skills, you really can turn one person's trash into a treasure. These inspiring projects will help you see thrifty finds in a whole new way.

Old Find, New Use

MAKE IT WITH FABRIC

Whether you use an honest-to-goodness vintage grain sack or reproduction fabric-by-the-yard, these projects will help your decor walk the line between pretty and practical.

1



1. **Café Curtain**

No sewing required! Use a seam ripper to remove the stitching from a grain sack. Unfold and trim to fit the measurements of the window. (Grain sack fabric is usually so sturdy that it makes for a clean cut—no hemming necessary.) Hang from a drapery rod using curtain clips.

2. **Upholstered Pouf**

Starting with 3½ yards of fabric (*$17 per yard, farmhousewares.com*), cut out nine 8½-inch by 26-inch rectangles. Sew the pieces together along the long edges, creating a tube. Cut circles of fabric for the top and bottom of the pouf, and sew in place, leaving a small opening for stuffing. Stuff with bean bag filler (*$16 for 3½ cubic feet; walmart.com*); hand-stitch the opening closed. For a tutorial, go to *countryliving.com/grainsack*.

3. **Frame Pockets**

Cut fabric ½ inch longer and wider than the cardboard insert of a picture frame; adhere the cut fabric to the insert with hot glue. Cut a new strip of fabric and wrap it around the bottom half of the insert to make a pocket. Place in the frame and hang.

4. **Laundry Bags**

Stitch twill tape loops to an intact grain sack (*from $55; textiletrunk.com*). To replicate the L (for lights) and D (for darks) shown here, download our template at *countryliving.com/grainsack*.

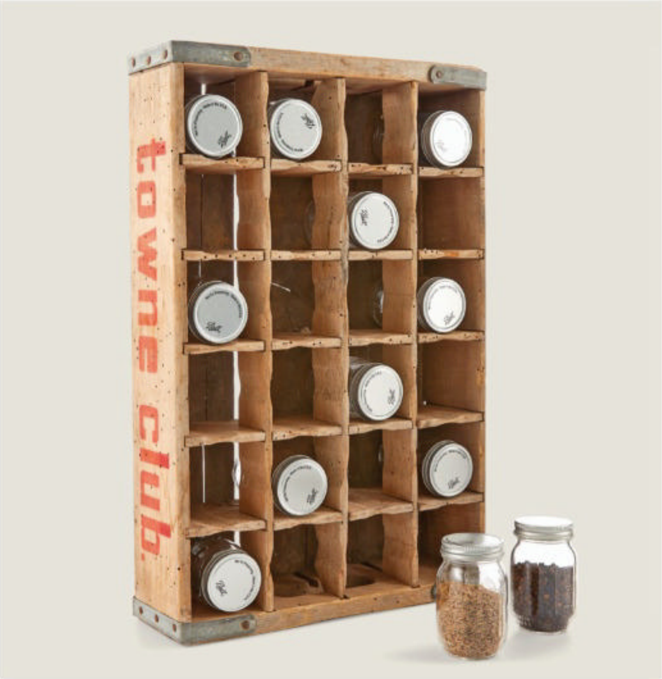
Old Find, New Use

VERSATILE VESSELS

Give new life to old items—and add some country flair—with these clever ideas.

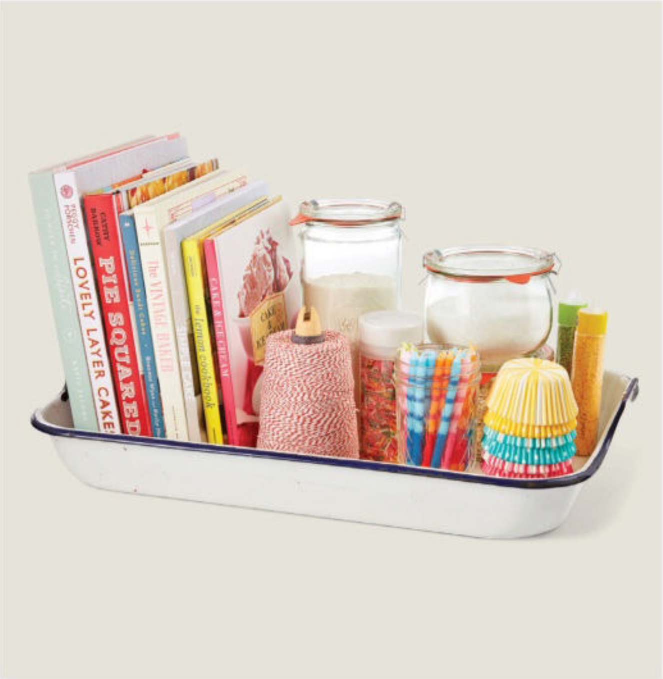
Sexton
REORDER 25852
uperb spanish PAPRIKA
NET WEIGHT 7 LBS.
John Sexton & Co.
DIV. OF BEATRICE FOODS CO.
CHICAGO, ILL. 60690
GOLDEN RULE
OUR TRADE MARK IS ALWAYS
A GUARANTEE OF EXCELLENCE
NET WEIGHT 1 LB.
PURE SPICES
ALLSPICE
FROM THE MILLS OF
THE CITIZENS' WHOLESALE SUPPLY Co
COLUMBUS, OHIO.

Decorate a farm table with wildflower-filled vintage tins. Use a large container for a centerpiece or a smaller one for a petite floral accent.



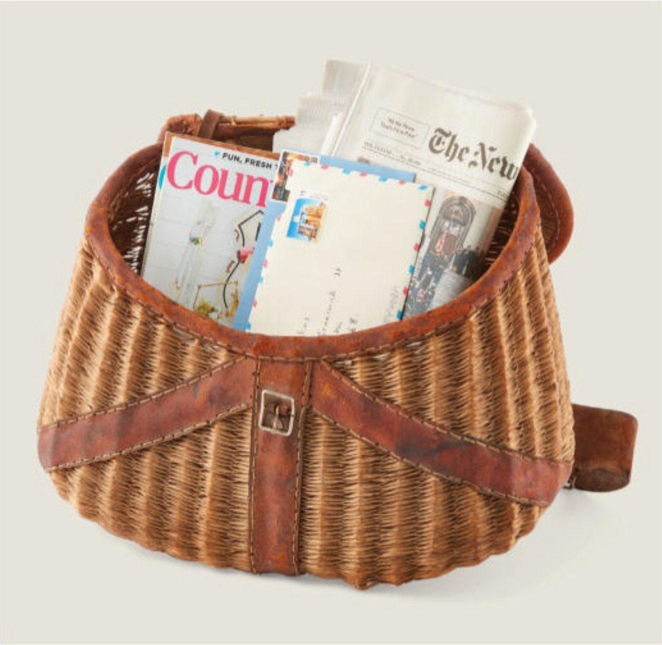
Soda Crate Spice Rack

If you have... A wooden beverage crate with dividers
Turn it into... A rustic, wall-mountable spice rack. Many spice sets come with 16 to 20 jars, which can be conveniently stashed in a standard crate.



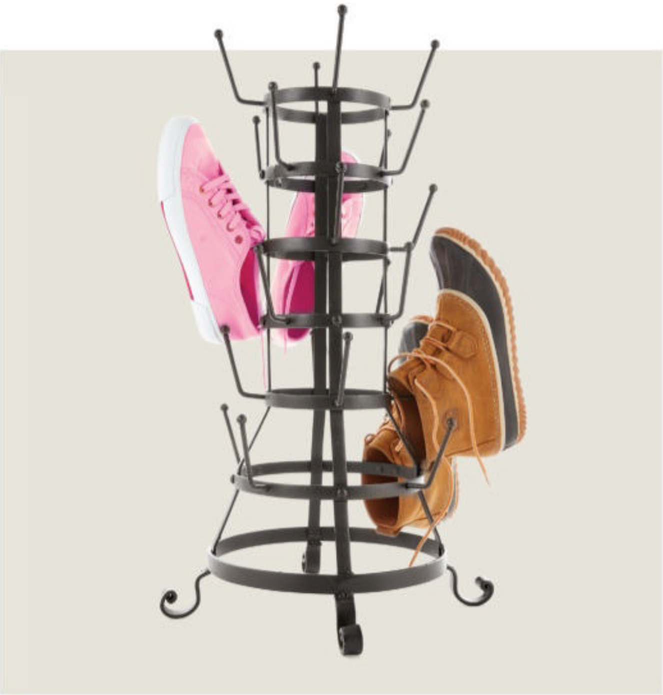
Enamelware Roasting Pans

If you have... An old deep pan
Turn it into... A charming country caddy that holds multiple kitchen items—cookbooks, crocks, jars—on a shelf or countertop. Consider corraling items by task (e.g., baking) as opposed to type.



Fishing Creel

If you have... A flat-backed fishing basket
Turn it into... A practical inbox for the catches of the day (mail, papers). The strapped accessory is also charming secured to a desk chair like a backpack. (A bike basket can up the entryway charm as well. Ding a corresponding bell every time you tackle something on your to-do list!)



Drying Rack Shoe Caddy

If you have... A metal rack for coffee cups or mason jars
Turn it into... A family shoe caddy with farmhouse charm. (Note: To free up more floor space, seek out one that can be mounted to the wall.)

Old Find, New Use

GET CREATIVE WITH CRAFTS STORAGE

From discarded kitchen utensils to cast-off farm supplies, these old finds make for one smart workspace.

1. Turn Berry Baskets into Bins
Hung on adhesive plastic hooks, farmers' market produce baskets organize supplies and free up counterspace.

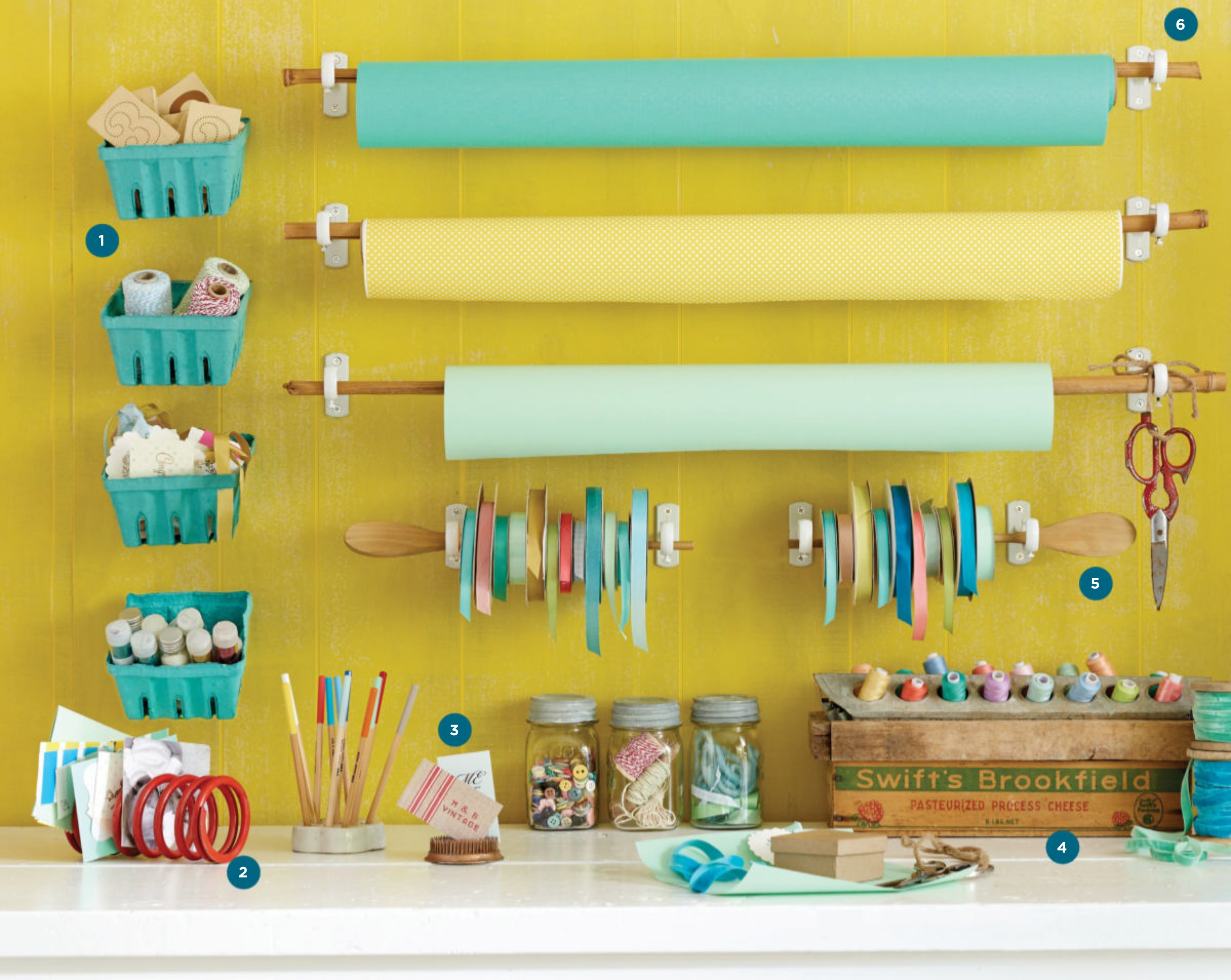
2. Turn a Spring into a Note Station
File away papers and gift tags in a colorful coil.

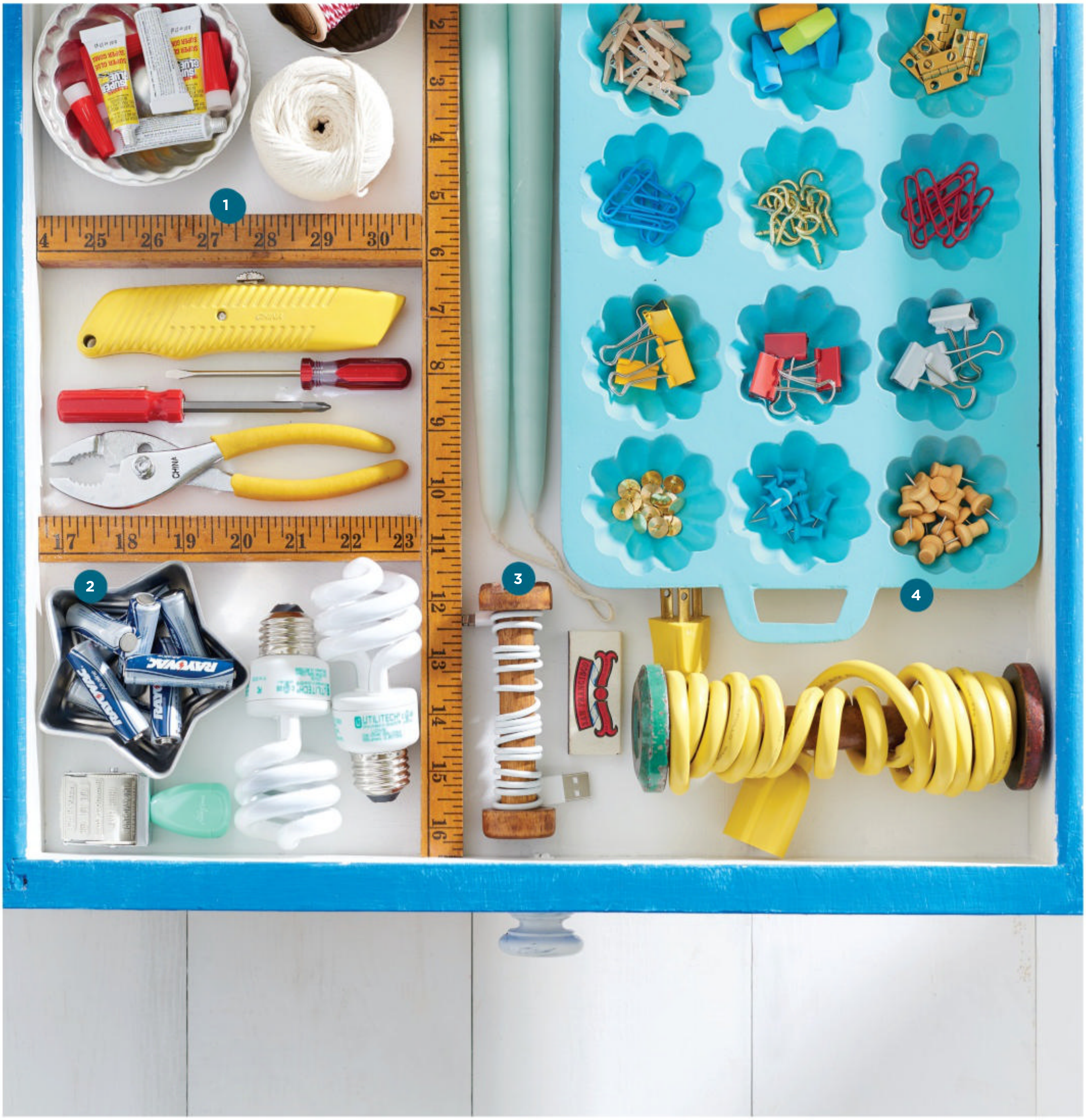
3. Turn Flower Frogs into Desk Organizers
These ceramic and metal ones store pens upright and business cards within reach.

4. Turn a Chicken Feeder into a Spool Holder
No need to keep your best-loved twine cooped up in a drawer. A chicken trough's feeder holes make a sweet roosting spot for these colorful crafting supplies. (Ours sits atop a crate for extra height.)

5. Turn Wooden Spoons into Ribbon Wranglers
Hung with drapery rod brackets, these kitchen staples give order to unruly spools of ribbon.

6. Turn Fishing Rods into Wrapping Paper Dispensers
Use a handsaw to trim cane fishing poles (or any wooden poles) to desired lengths, then hang with drapery rod brackets.





JUNK DRAWER

1. Turn Yardsticks into Drawer Dividers

Map out zones so you'll know how long to make each section, then use a handsaw to cut 1-inch yardsticks into corresponding pieces. To create 2-inch-high dividers, stack two of each length and affix with hot glue.

2. Turn Gelatin Molds into Compartments

Rein in wayward items (such as rolling batteries) with these tin containers. Mason jar lids will also do the trick.

3. Turn Wooden Spools into Cord Keepers

Don't let wily cords wind you up. Instead, tightly curl them around antique bobbins.

Find It Fast: Bobbins, *thevintageroundtop.com*

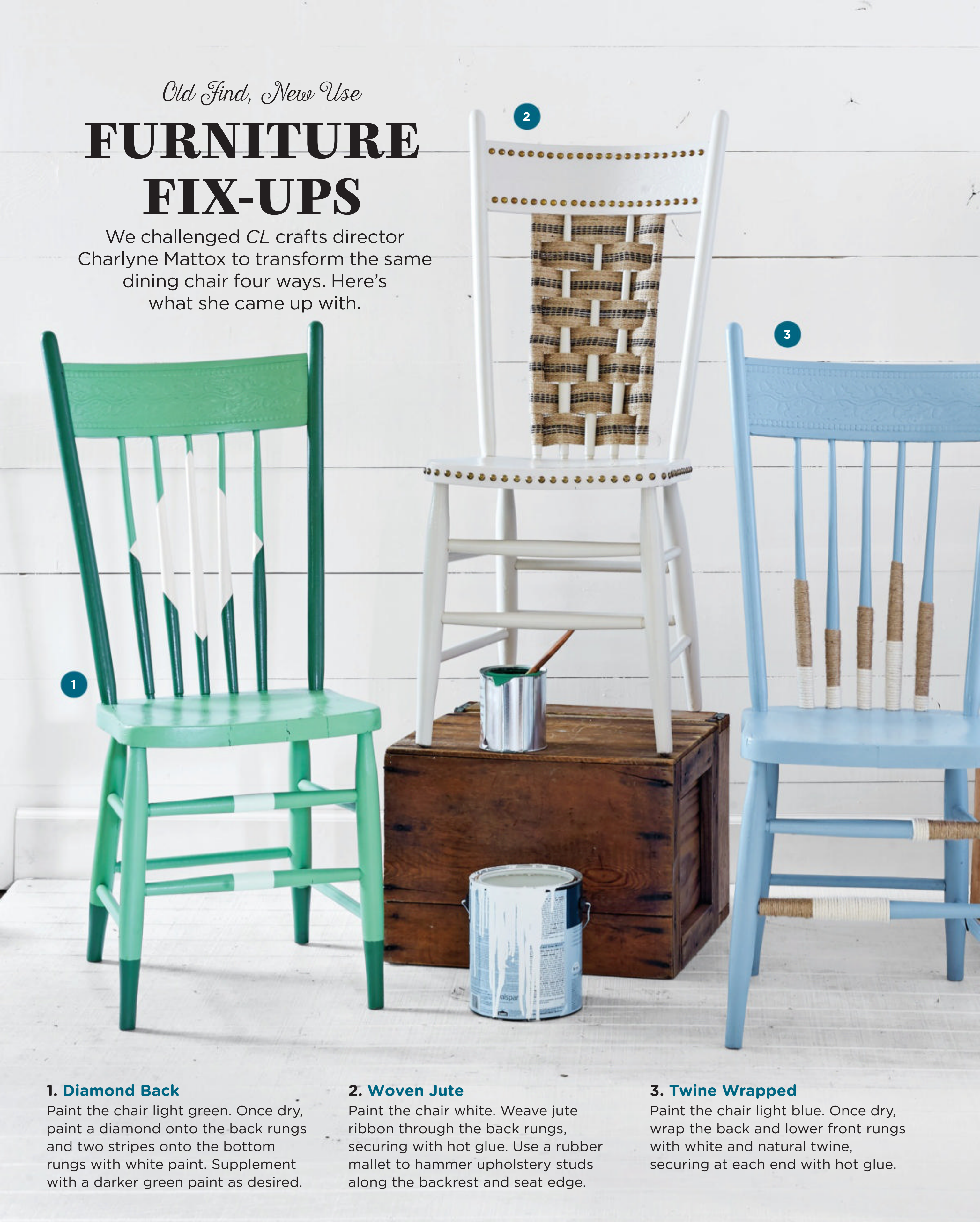
4. Turn a Muffin Tin into a Small-Parts Holder

No more digging around for push pins or paper clips thanks to this mini muffin tin, spray-painted a cheery bright blue. (Note: Painted muffin tins are no longer food safe.)

Old Find, New Use

FURNITURE FIX-UPS

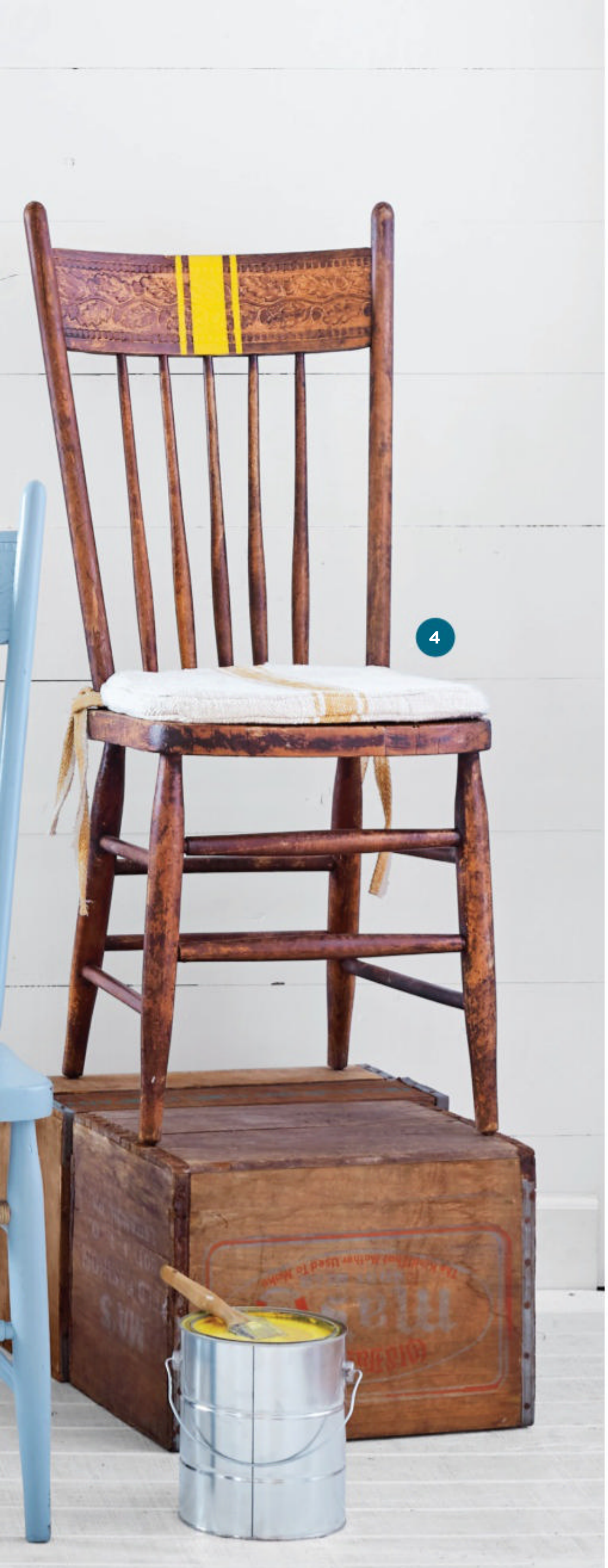
We challenged *CL* crafts director Charlyne Mattox to transform the same dining chair four ways. Here's what she came up with.



1. Diamond Back
Paint the chair light green. Once dry, paint a diamond onto the back rungs and two stripes onto the bottom rungs with white paint. Supplement with a darker green paint as desired.

2. Woven Jute
Paint the chair white. Weave jute ribbon through the back rungs, securing with hot glue. Use a rubber mallet to hammer upholstery studs along the backrest and seat edge.

3. Twine Wrapped
Paint the chair light blue. Once dry, wrap the back and lower front rungs with white and natural twine, securing at each end with hot glue.



4. Grain Sack
Paint one wide and two narrow yellow stripes onto the backrest. Use a vintage grain sack and upholstery foam to make a custom seat cushion (including ties).

FROM MUSTY TO MUST-HAVE!

"How can I give this pretty
but lackluster bedroom vanity new life?"

Try This Fix:

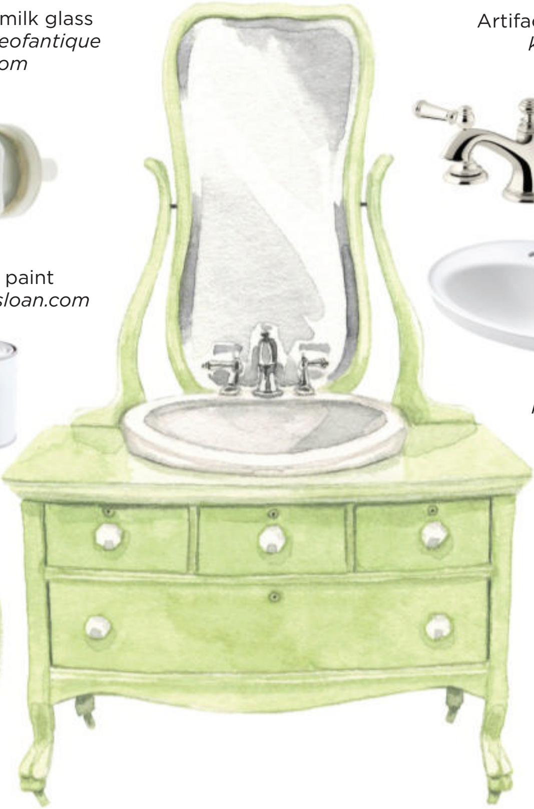
Chalk it up to our soft spot for antiques and all things repurposed, but we're seeing more pieces such as yours popping up in bathrooms as a character-rich alternative to nondescript built-in vanities. Start with a sink and faucet that fit within the surface area of your piece (we love a drop-in with just a little edge; see below), then enlist the help of a carpenter to accommodate the sink and retrofit the drawers and back to make room for the plumbing. For an even more dramatic update, freshen it up with paint—*CL* homes editor Jennifer Kopf suggests Annie Sloan's Chalk Paint to retain the piece's antique charm—and then seal the surface with a water-repellent coat of wax. Finally, add new hardware—a chrome faucet, milk glass knobs—to complement the white sink.

Octagonal milk glass knob; *houseofantique hardware.com*

Clear chalk paint wax; *anniesloan.com*

Annie Sloan
SOFT WAX
CLEAR

Lem Lem; *anniesloan .com*



Artifacts faucet; *kohler.com*

Serif sink; *kohler.com*

ATLANTIC OCEAN
BLACK SEA
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
SYRIA
TURKEY
SAUDI ARABIA
ARABIAN SEA
GULF OF ADEN
BRITISH SOMALILAND
RUSSIA
SOVIET
REPUBLIC
INDIAN OC
STANFORD'S
BORIC ACID
HYDROGE
PEROXID

America's most avid antiques enthusiasts scour the country for rare finds, unbelievable bargains, and outlandish stories from the road.

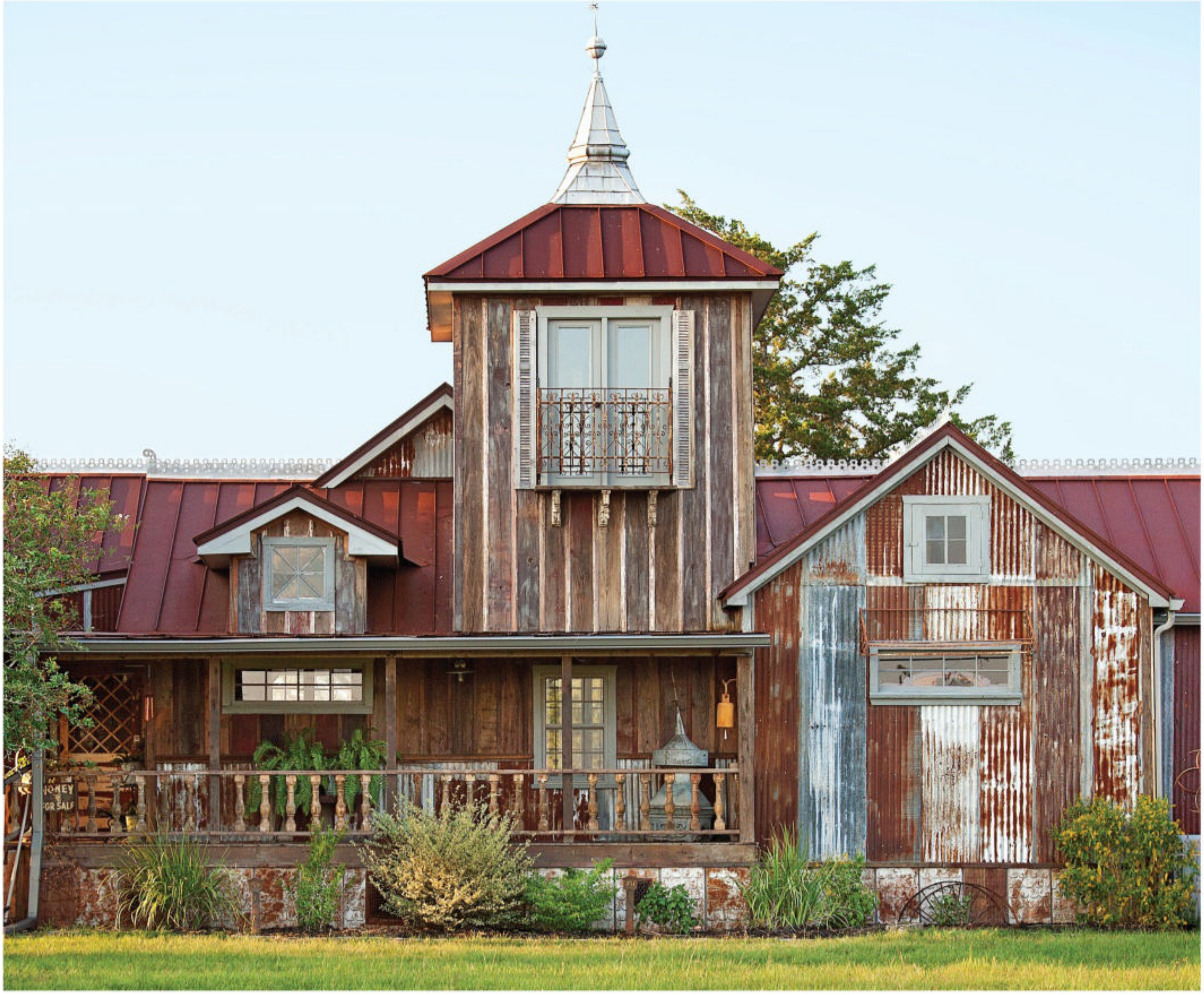
Chapter 4

HUNTERS & GATHERERS

Some collectors have added pop and character to their homes by mixing functional pieces with vintage treasures. The takeaway: There are countless ways to beautifully show off prized collections.

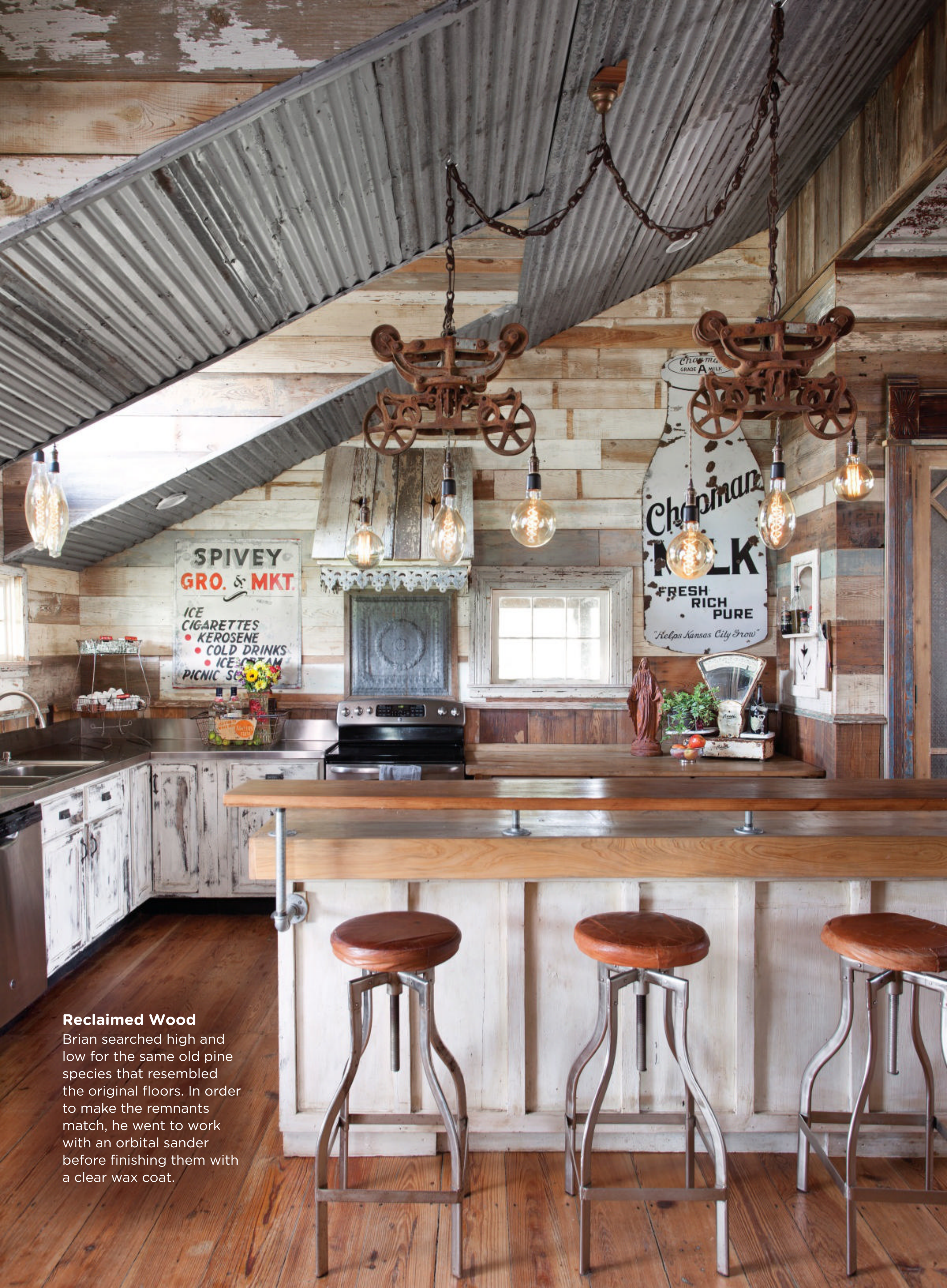
RECLAIMED EVERYTHING

When two Texas antiques dealers bring their work home—specifically, four barns' worth of wood, iron, and tin materials—you get a one-of-a-kind farmhouse that gives new meaning to "Where's the recycling?"

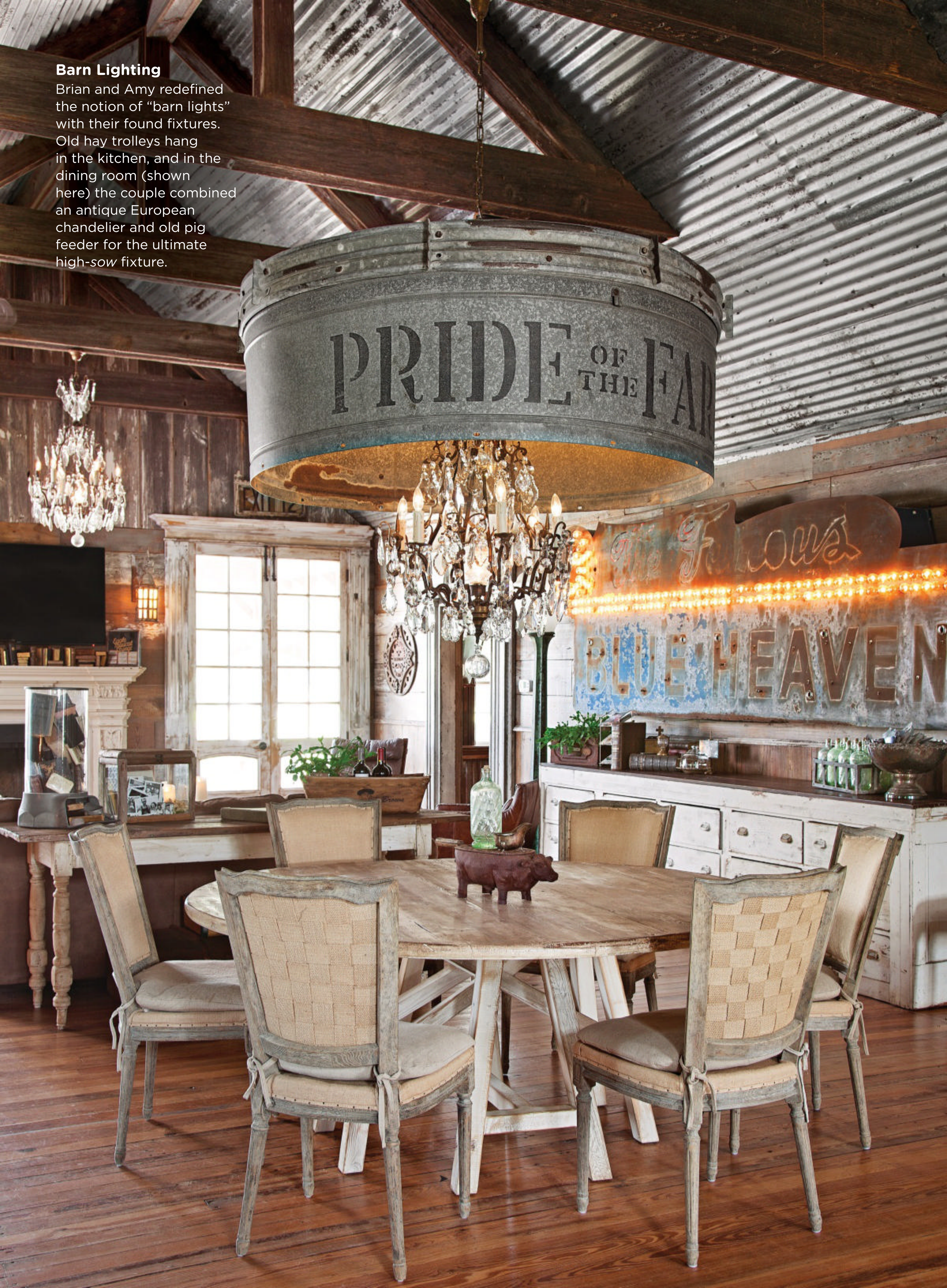


▲ Tin Roof, Rusted!
The home's exterior was fabricated from a hodgepodge of rural structures. The roof is new raw steel that will rust on its own; metal siding was salvaged from barn roofs. The iron trim along the roofline once adorned a Victorian-era Iowa farmhouse.

AS OWNERS OF Old World Antieks (*oldworldantieks.com*), one of the country's largest antiques stores, Amy and Brian Kleinwachter have unloaded roughly 400 containers of vintage finds in their 20 years of scouring the globe. Most of the pieces find their way to the 55,000 combined square feet of their two Texas warehouses. "Washed and worn rustic elegance—nice stuff that's not 'stuffy'—is our specialty," says Brian. So when the La Grange couple looked to expand a 900-square-foot two-bedroom farmhouse down the road from their shop, it wasn't hard to formulate a vision—one prioritizing patina above all else. Finding a builder, however, was more challenging. "Most don't want to work with 100 percent ➤

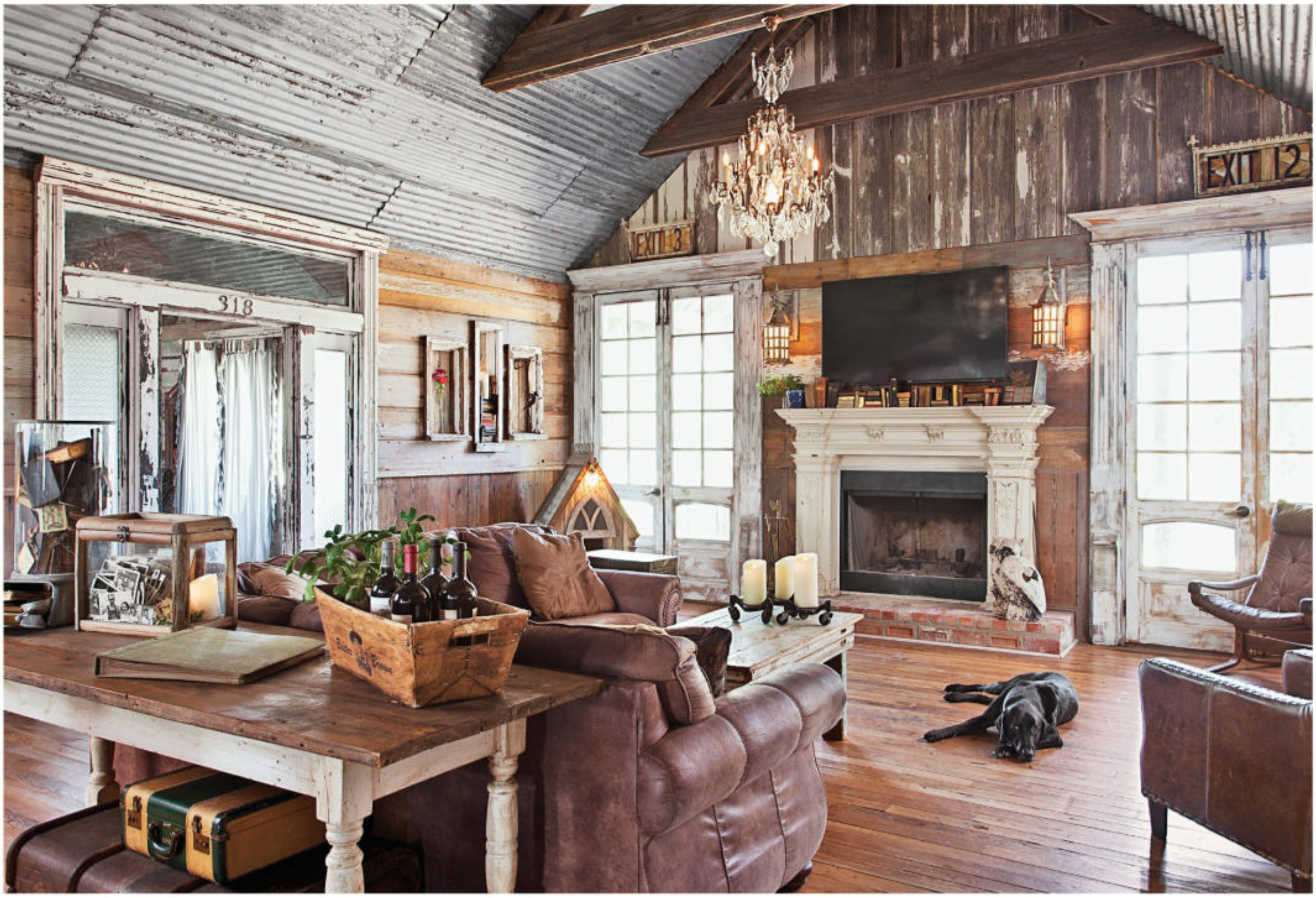

SPIVEY
GRO. & MKT.
ICE
CIGARETTES
KEROSENE
COLD DRINKS
ICE CREAM
PICNIC S
Chapman GRADE A MILK
Chapman
MILK
FRESH
RICH
PURE
"Helps Kansas City Grow"

Reclaimed Wood
Brian searched high and low for the same old pine species that resembled the original floors. In order to make the remnants match, he went to work with an orbital sander before finishing them with a clear wax coat.


PRIDE OF THE FAR
The Famous
BLUE HEAVEN

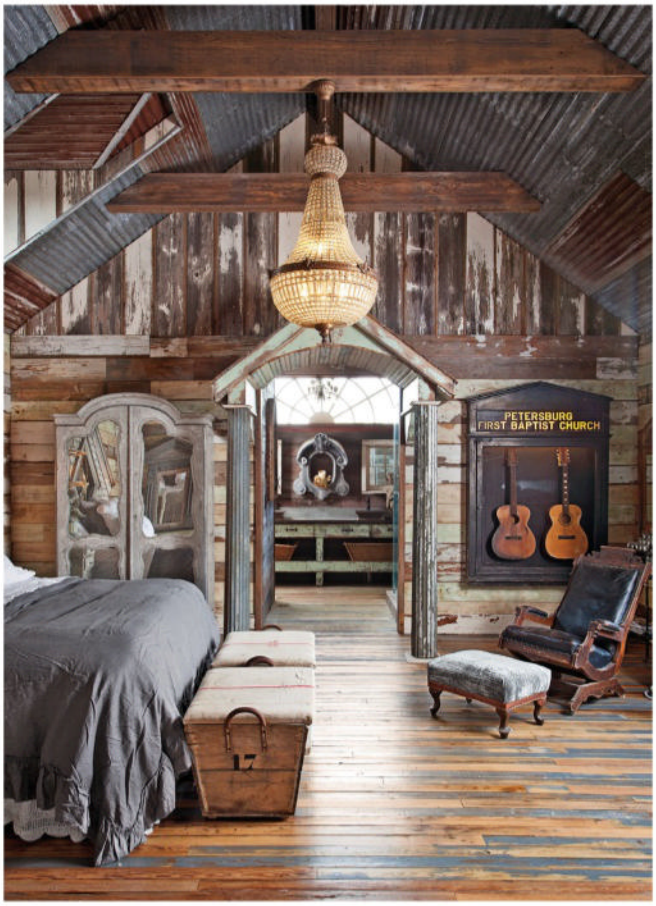
Barn Lighting

Brian and Amy redefined the notion of "barn lights" with their found fixtures. Old hay trolleys hang in the kitchen, and in the dining room (shown here) the couple combined an antique European chandelier and old pig feeder for the ultimate high-*sow* fixture.

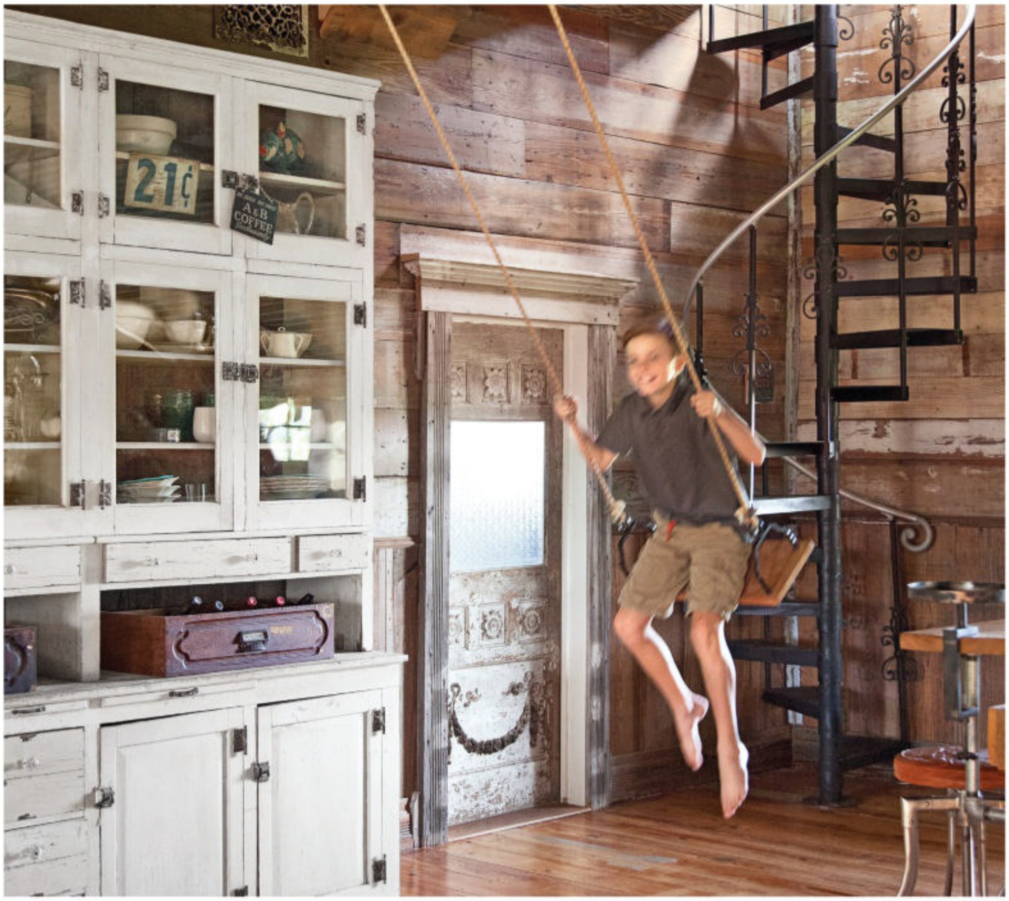


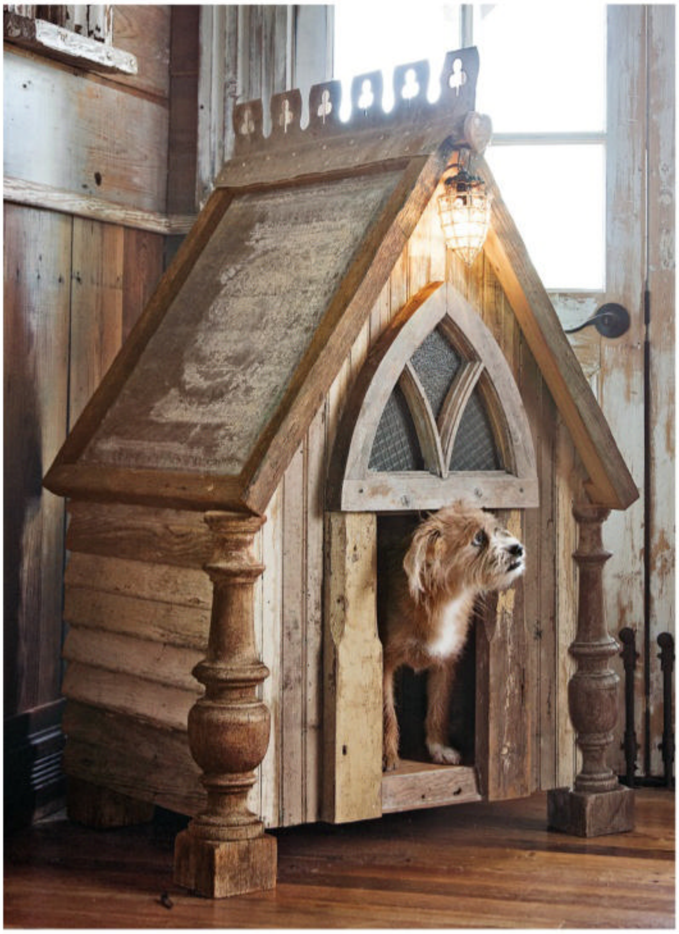
▲ Corrugated Tin Ceilings
Brian was on his way to work when he spotted a guy unloading heaps of tin at the local recycling center. "It had the prettiest gray-silver paint on the top. We used it for the ceiling throughout the whole house."

➤ Reborn Registry
Brian added interior lighting to a display from a local Baptist church. Now, it highlights a couple of the family's vintage guitars in the master bedroom.



salvage," says Brian. Fortunately, Rudy Mancha in nearby Smithville was up to the task, putting his experience restoring local landmarks to good (re)use. The new footprint, which includes a large open living space, sizable master suite, and watchtower above a spiral staircase, is chock-full of storied finds from both home (Midwestern barns, closed-down country stores) and abroad (Egyptian windows, French mantels, English door fronts). But while the space is rich with secondhand scores, it's not all been there, done that. "There were definitely *a lot* of firsts in the building of this house," Brian says.





▲ **Country Store Salvage**
The Kleinwachters' 9-foot-tall freestanding cabinet, discovered by a picker pal in Iowa, formerly did duty as a retail display. Son Blake, however, is more occupied with the swing, which is carved with the lyrics "And I think to myself, what a wonderful world."

◄ **Clever Bark-itecture**
Even tiny terrier mix Oakley camps out in a doghouse crafted from reclaimed wood and an old dormer window from Egypt.

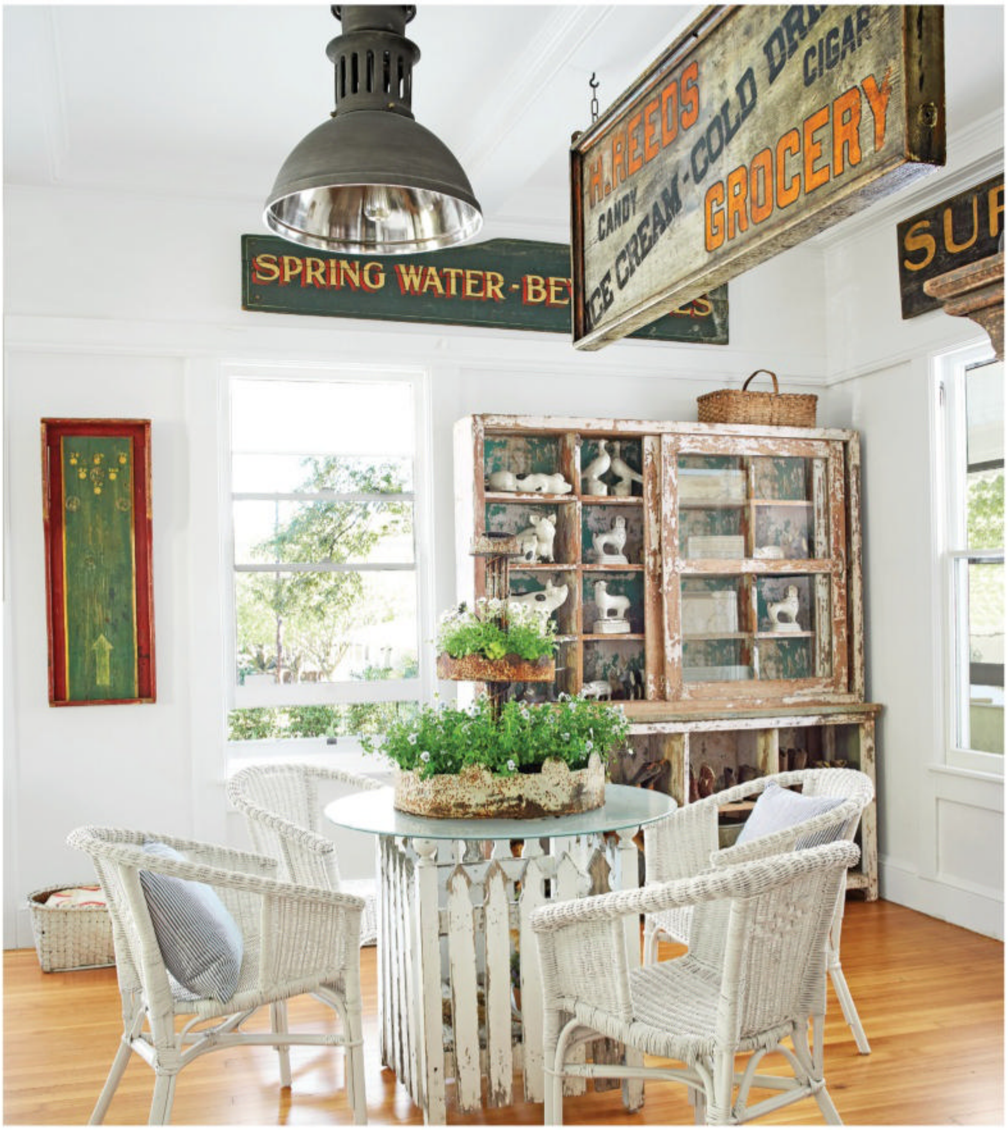
► **Factory Fixtures**
An original "violin maker and repairer" sign—a purchase that prompted the stringed stash—adds typographical punch to the industrial mirror tucked behind it. The desk belonged to a Parisian watchmaker.

OLIN MAKER AND REPAIRER.
HOFFMANN'S
CRÊME-STÄRKE

Hunters & Gatherers

STORIED GROUND

When it comes to antiquing, there's the score and there's the scoop—the tale behind the sale. That's certainly the case for Renita Browning, whose 1904 Craftsman in McKinney, Texas, is chock-full of collections *and* recollections.



◄ **Sunroom**
The unique picket-fence table, a tag-sale find in downtown McKinney, is surrounded by vintage wicker chairs and topped with a beautifully rusted two-tier planter. The weathered white hutch is filled with chalkware cow figurines—"I have a bit of a cow obsession," says Renita—and a trio of metal pigs. Lower shelves host 20 years' worth of kids' cowboy boots.

► **Mudroom**
"I found this catchall, which had been salvaged from an old general store, at a fairgrounds show in Nashville," says Renita. "I love the green shade—green and red are my favorites—and how it complements the sandwich sign. (Side note: Since purchasing that sign in a neighboring town, I've learned there was once a Crosswhite's in McKinney!) The cabinet originally had another row of drawers that I had to cut down to fit this mudroom nook."

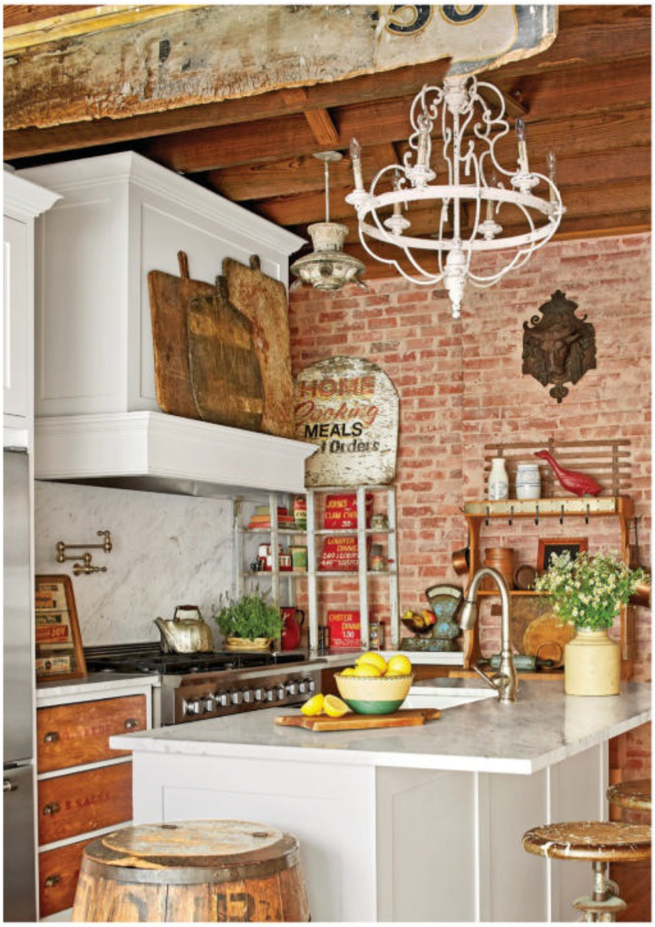
EVERY ITEM IN Renita Browning's house comes with a story. Even the century-old Texas property has its own set of lore—both historical and personal.

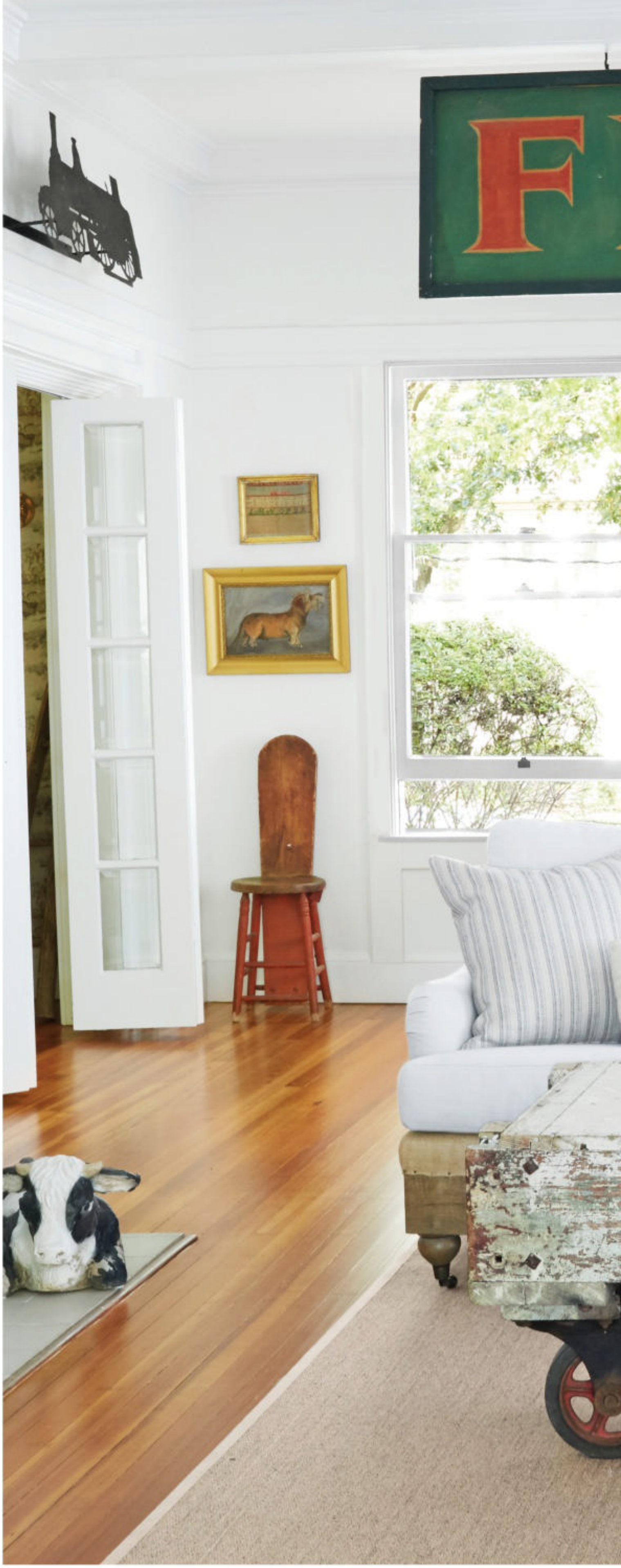
"It was once the home of late U.S. Congressman Ray Roberts, who, rumor has it, hosted John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson on-site," she says. (Roberts was in the fourth car in the Kennedy motorcade.) Renita's first encounter with the home, however, came with less pomp and circumstance. "It was an impulse buy during a Thanksgiving trip from New York to Dallas," says Renita. "My daughter-in-law, Kim, took me antiquing in downtown McKinney. I fell in love with the community—one charming house after another—and made an offer that same day.

"On the flight home, my husband, Mel, and I looked at each other like, 'Did we just buy a house?' "

Her "know it when you see it, buy it now, figure it out later" philosophy also applies to antiquing, which is how Renita has amassed an impressive, 25-years-strong assortment of items big (old signage, architectural salvage, apothecary cabinets), small (bottles, chalkware, dog paintings), and in between. "It's really all about the patina—just whatever has good patina," she says, noting that some of her favorite online sources include 1st N Line (*1stnline.com*) and Jasper52 (*jasper52.com*).

Crosswhite's
SANDWICH
SHOP
CANDIES
Better Homes New Cook Book
THE GOOD HOUSEKEEPING COOKBOOK





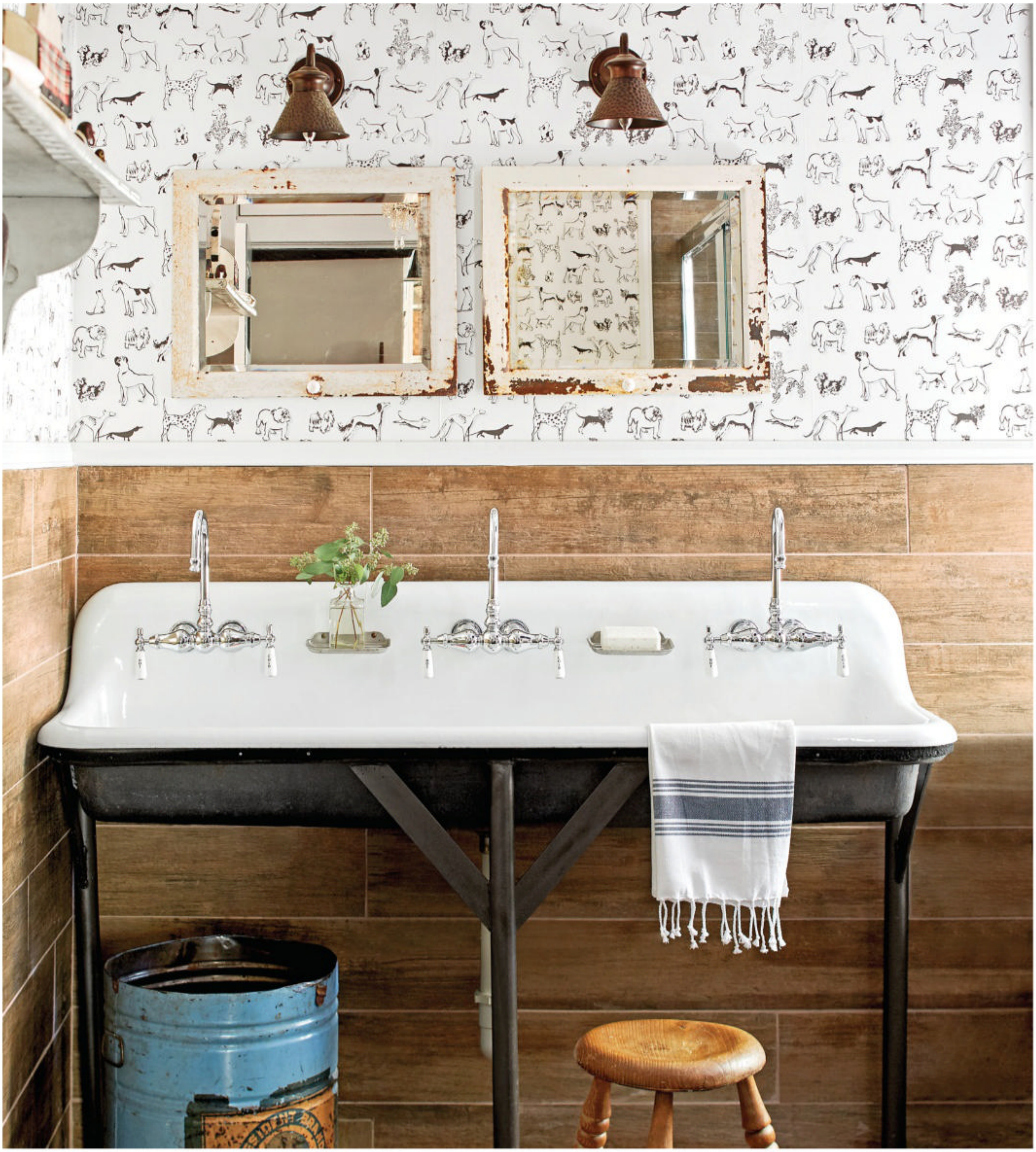
Kitchen

Renita, who wanted an unconventional kitchen from the start, had no interest in traditional cabinets, so she tracked down seven old apothecary drawer fronts—$85 for the whole stack—and gave them to her cabinetmaker for stylish lower storage. The original brick was a lucky discovery, unveiled when the plaster came down. "There's a lot going on in here," says Renita, who selected Carrara marble countertops to offset the happy hodgepodge. The industrial ceiling lights came from local Mexican restaurant Uncle Julio's.

Sitting Area

"This is the most tranquil room in the house," says Renita, noting the absence of a television and other technology. The space opens up to the wraparound porch, and an equally breezy coat of white paint allows the antiques, like a chippy factory-cart coffee table, wooden mallard, and oversize flour sign, to shine. The apothecary cabinet houses yellowware from Renita's early days of collecting.

FLOUR
FARM SUPPLY, INC.
SPRING WATER · BEVERAGES
FIRSTHAVEN FARM
Reliable Seeds
SIOUX CITY Nursery & Seed Co.
SUGAR
R



Trough Sink

"This sink, from an old school, is a perfect example of 'buy now, find a place for it later.' It was originally supposed to be our kitchen sink, but we couldn't figure out how to put in a garbage disposal. Because Mel does the dishes, that was a deal breaker. Then we tried it in the downstairs bath, but we couldn't open the door. The remaining option was our upstairs bath. It's a few hundred pounds, so it took two men to get it up there—one of the guys was trying out to be an NFL linebacker! He hardly broke a sweat."

General Store Fridge

For Renita, no trip is too far when the voyage brings her to a particularly beautiful piece of antique furniture. "I found and fell in love with this old 1800s refrigerator on eBay, and I drove all the way to a barn in rural Pennsylvania to pick it up. The guy uncovered it, and it was just sensational—a 10 out of 10! It took six people to get it into our house. The signs across the top clinched the deal—one (not shown) says 'Lard,' and my dad's first job was selling lard. We clear-coated the shelves so it can act as a pantry."

OLD GLORY
BUTTER
¢
lb
OLD GLORY
COFFEE
¢
lb
SELECTED
EGGS
¢
doz
HONEY

Hunters & Gatherers

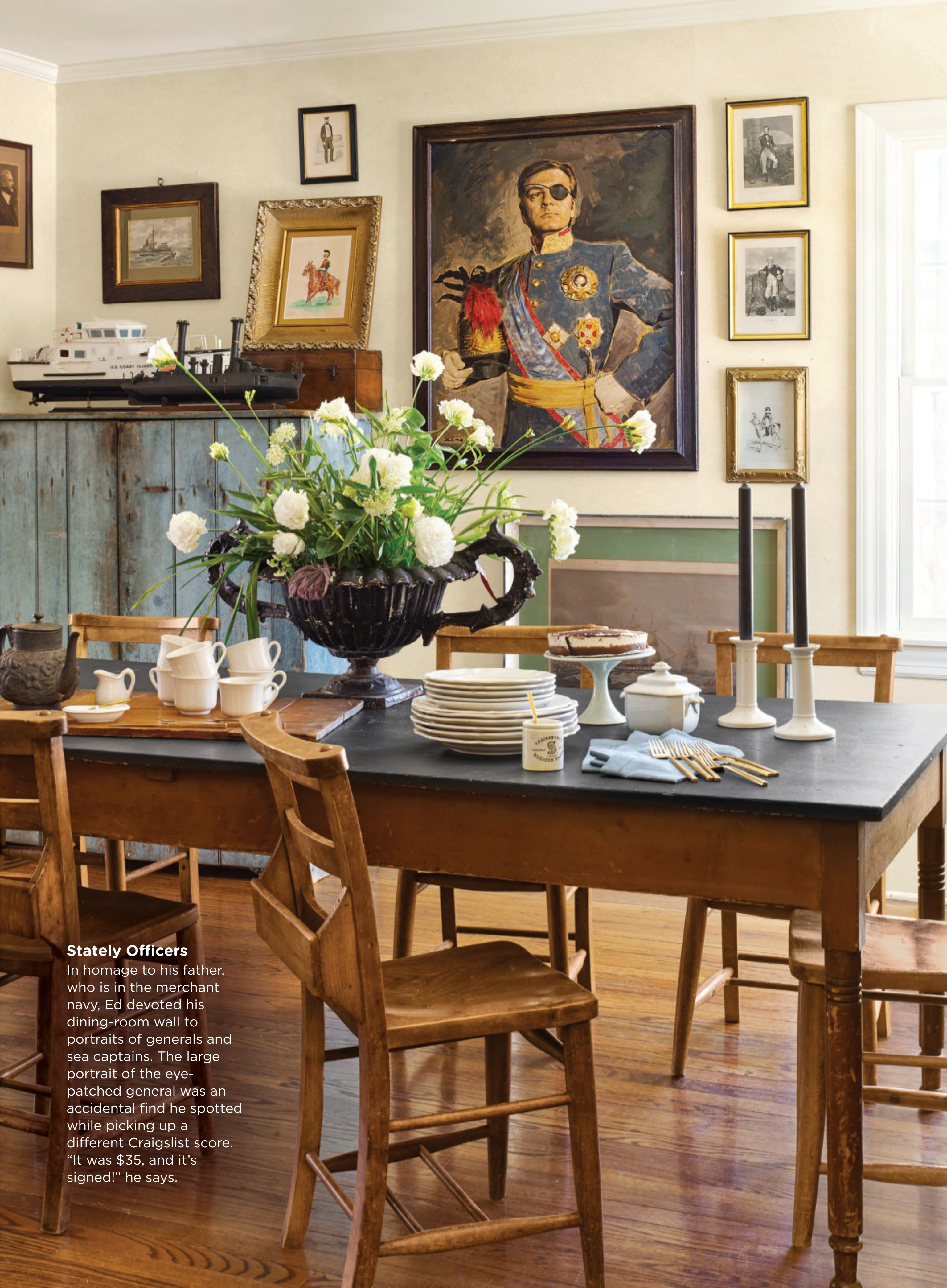
CHAIRMAN OF THE HOARD

When Ed Chaudhuri is not working on Wall Street, he and his family are roaming the country's back roads in a yellow 1970s camper van, tracking sell-offs of another sort.

BY DAY, ED CHAUDHURI works on Wall Street, but his nights and weekends are devoted to treasure hunting. From the comfort of his suburban New Jersey home, armed with his trusty computer, he searches Craigslist postings for vintage items both near (upstate New York, Maine, Connecticut) and far (Arizona, California). What's he looking for exactly? That would be everything. Rugs, farmhouse tables, oil portraits, apothecary cabinets, ironstone—he can't resist any of it. "If I see a piece, and I connect with it and it's well priced, I'm coming home with it," he says. "I like to think, 'This piece needs to have a second life,' but I don't actually have a plan for what I'm going to do with it." Which is why he has 24 English school chairs taking up space in various rooms. ("The guy wouldn't split the set," he says.) The attic and garage are also beyond full at the moment.

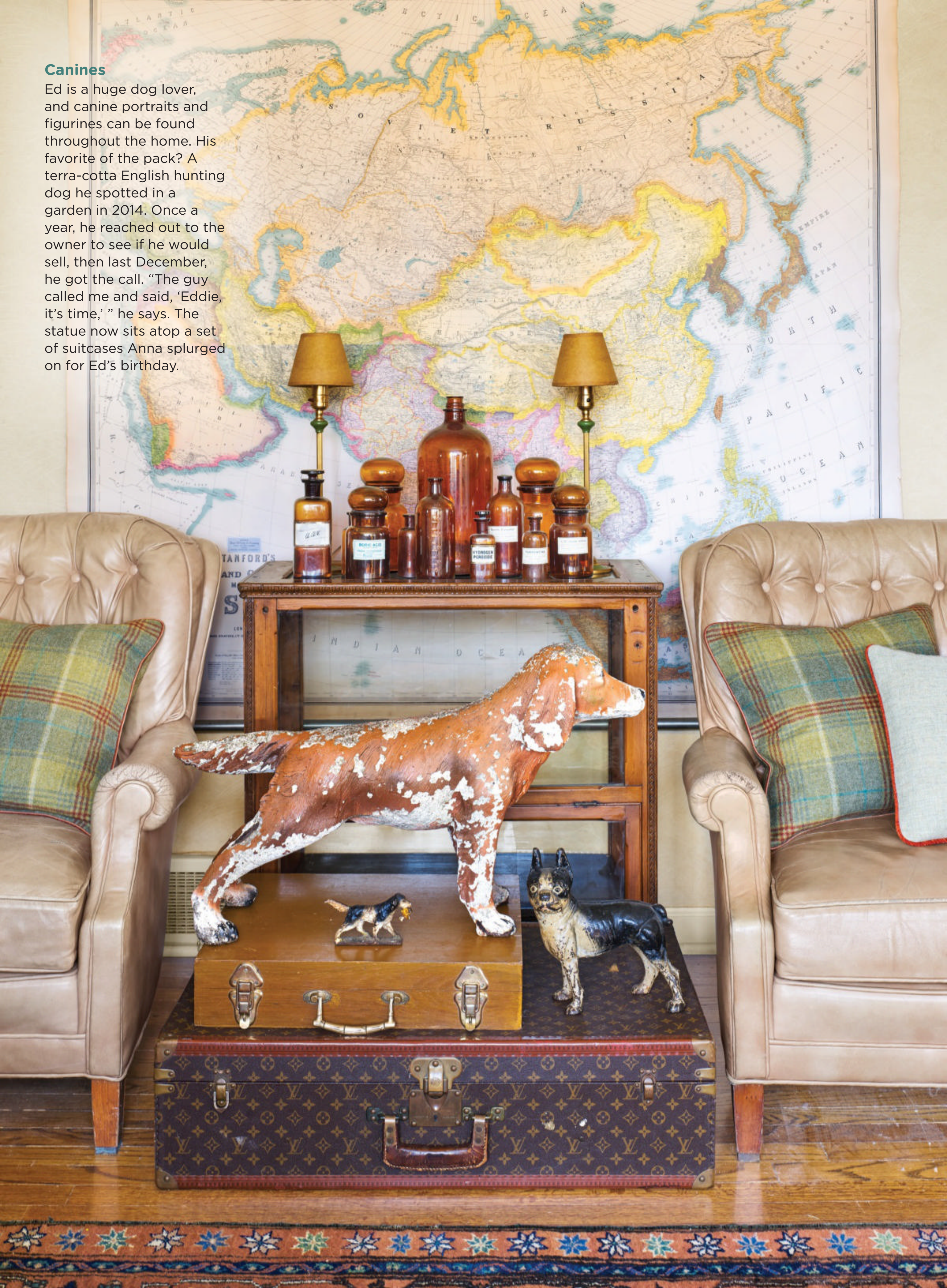
This collector's origin story begins innocently enough—it all started with impending fatherhood. When his wife, Anna, was expecting their first child, Ed decided to create an all-vintage nursery. "My wife and I are old souls, so we really connected on that nursery."

That's a bit of an understatement, as his connection to that room led to some dramatic measures. He tossed everything they owned—right down to the dishes—and ➤



Stately Officers

In homage to his father, who is in the merchant navy, Ed devoted his dining-room wall to portraits of generals and sea captains. The large portrait of the eye-patched general was an accidental find he spotted while picking up a different Craigslist score. “It was $35, and it’s signed!” he says.



Canines

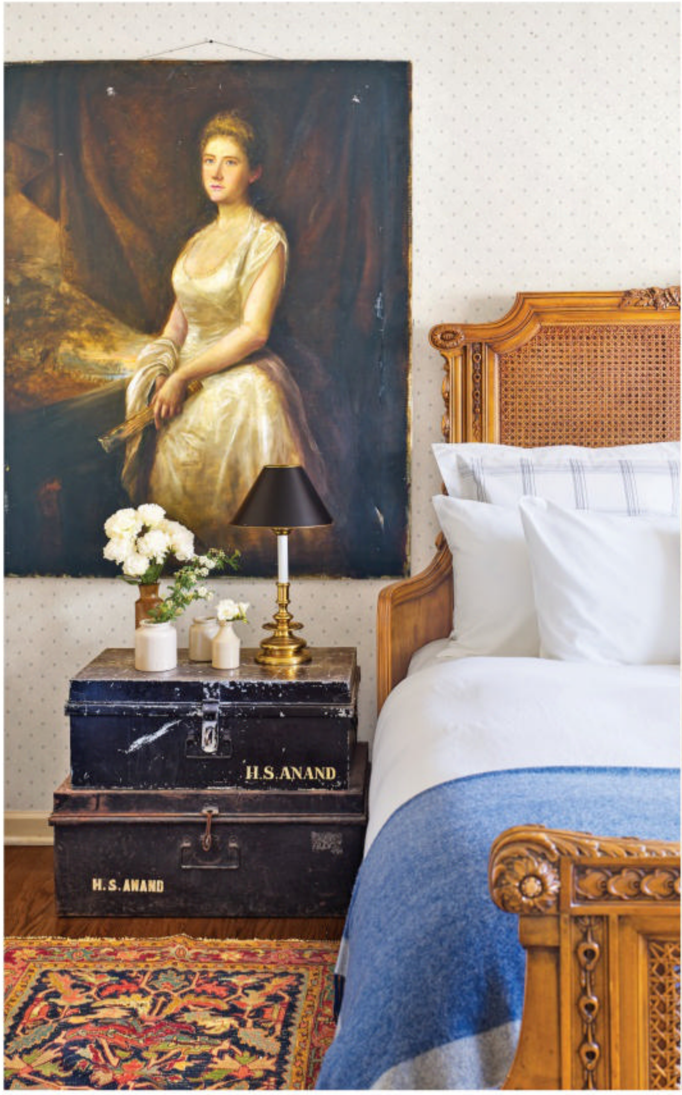
Ed is a huge dog lover, and canine portraits and figurines can be found throughout the home. His favorite of the pack? A terra-cotta English hunting dog he spotted in a garden in 2014. Once a year, he reached out to the owner to see if he would sell, then last December, he got the call. “The guy called me and said, ‘Eddie, it’s time,’ ” he says. The statue now sits atop a set of suitcases Anna splurged on for Ed’s birthday.

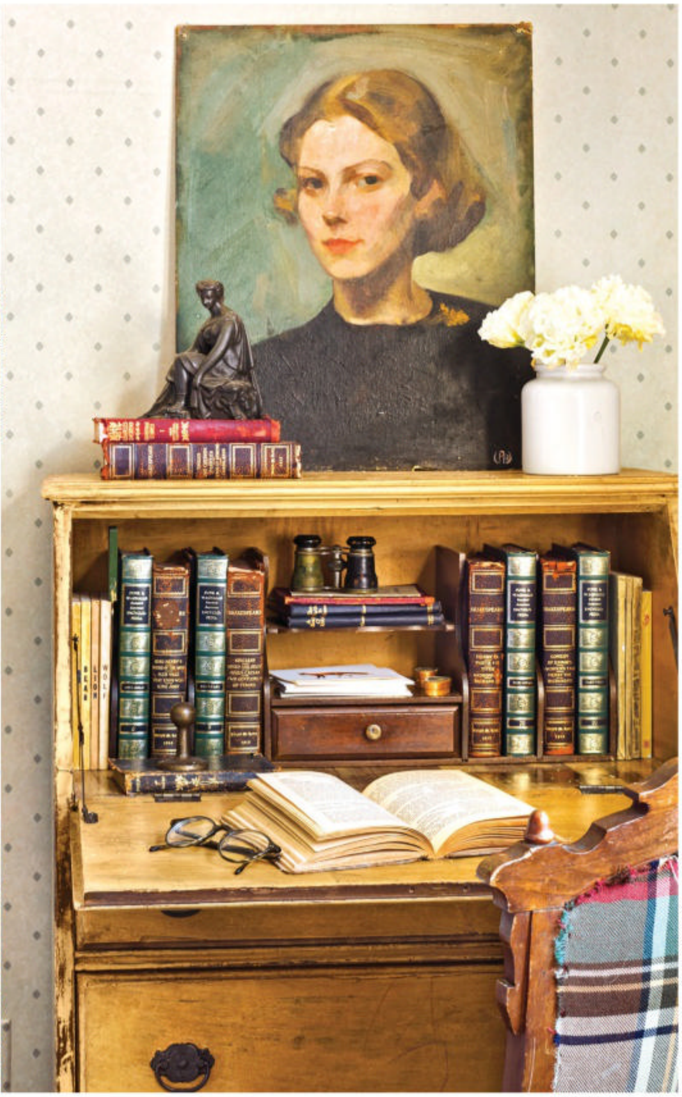
decided to go vintage or bust in the entire house. Anna, an executive at Verizon (and, at the time, a new mom), was initially less than enthusiastic, but her husband's passion eventually won her over. Says Ed, "She decided to become a partner in the process, and she started going with me on these antiquing trips." With baby Aditya in tow, the couple spent the next few years adding layers and layers (and layers!) of vintage charm to their home, filling one room and moving on to the next.

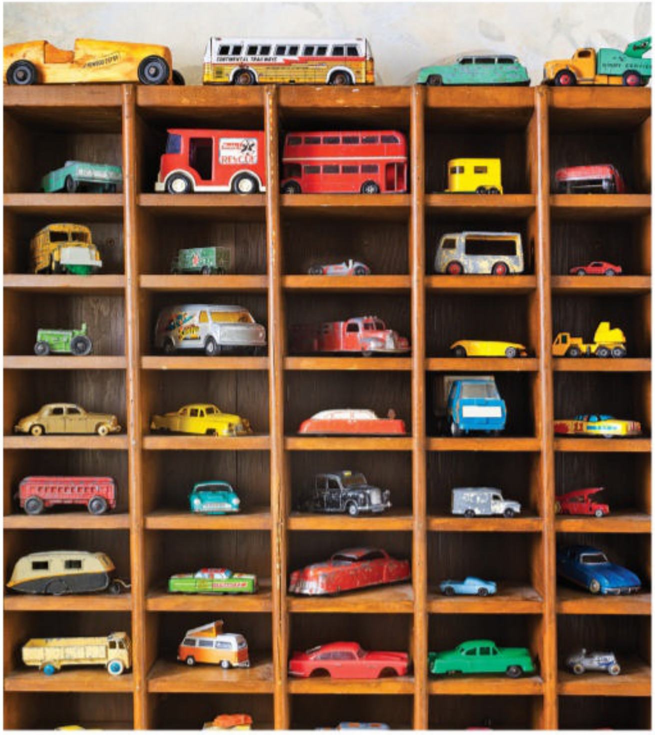
But, as any collector and design enthusiast knows, a room is never "done," and for Ed the hunt is always on. Thanks in part to now school-age Aditya, the family finally has the perfect new-old vehicle for their antiquing adventures: a 1972 Volkswagen Westfalia Camper. "Aditya mentioned that he saw Peppa Pig has a camper and that we should get one, too," says Ed, who then—not surprisingly—went on his trusted Craigslist and found a camper nearby in almost pristine condition. After a few adjustments, the antiques-mobile was ready for action, and it is plenty roomy for the family of four (the newest member of the road-show team is daughter Annaya), two dogs, luggage, and snacks, as well as finds collected wherever the road takes them. Lack of space in the piled-up van never stops Ed from pulling the trigger on a bargain. "I just buy it and tell the guy that we'll be back in a month, and then we start planning another trip," he says.

But the Chaudhuris say 90 percent of the time, they don't know where they're going. Craigslist is usually their starting point, but they'll hit flea markets (the year-round Golden Nugget in Lambertville, New Jersey, is a favorite), barns, mom-and-pop shops, and antiques stores along the way.

Exploring back roads on family road trips, meeting Craigslist sellers and learning their stories, and trying to figure out how to get things home… Ed can't imagine any other way of life. "All those nuances keep it so thrilling!" he says. "I love the idea of us coming down the highway with something tacked to the roof and everyone else on the road thinking, 'Is this guy crazy?' "





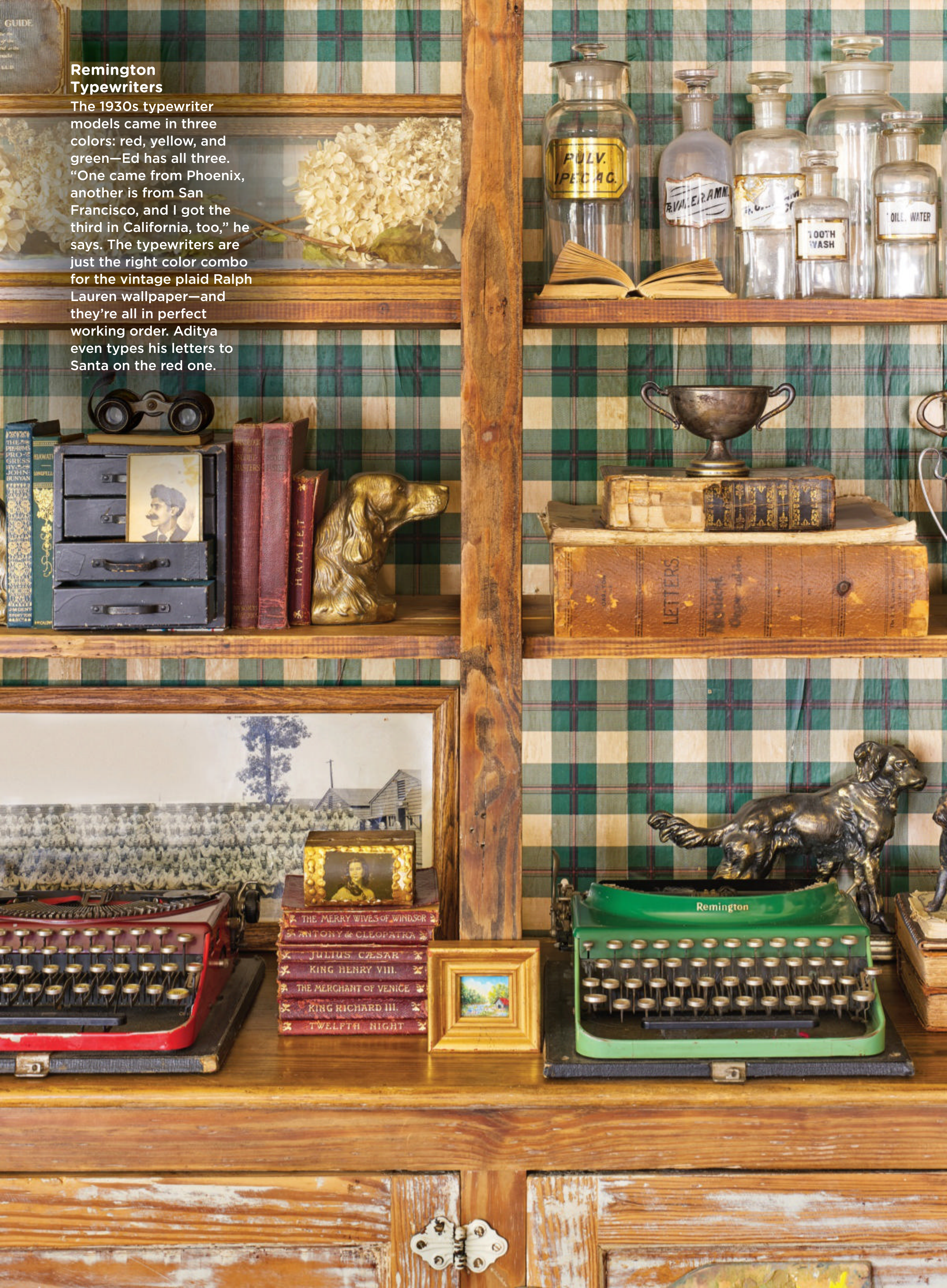


◂ Toy Cars

Little Aditya has really gotten into collecting—Ed jokes that his son knows better where and when everything in the house was purchased than his parents do. The budding collector also chose each of the 70 toy cars garaged in a circa-1920 general-store hardware cubby. The cars are right at home in the sophisticated kids' bedroom layered with Hudson's Bay point blankets, antique missionary beds, and an old 95-inch-long German consulate case that Ed converted into a closet.

▴ Portraits of Ladies

Ed's philosophy on oil portraits: You can never have enough. To that end, he has 40 to 50 of them, and he has given them all new names. The lady to the left is Martha, because "I found her at a store on Martha's Vineyard," says Ed. "She rode the ferry back to Boston with us. We usually tie our purchases on top of the roof, but she rode inside!" On the right, Florence holds court atop an old dresser desk Ed found in the Hudson Valley—the only find he has ever painted, by the way.



Remington Typewriters

The 1930s typewriter models came in three colors: red, yellow, and green—Ed has all three. “One came from Phoenix, another is from San Francisco, and I got the third in California, too,” he says. The typewriters are just the right color combo for the vintage plaid Ralph Lauren wallpaper—and they’re all in perfect working order. Aditya even types his letters to Santa on the red one.

OVEN HEAT INDICATOR
Glenwood

This stove was likely made by Stewart Stove Co. during the Great Depression.

Chapter 5

WHAT IS IT? WHAT IS IT WORTH?

Treasure hunters often have a keen eye for what's special. Sometimes they even hit the jackpot in terms of value. Our team of experts appraises some of our favorite finds from over the years.

What is it? What is it worth?

ART AND SUPPLIES

Antique art pieces—and antique art supplies—are popular finds for collectors who seek items with stories behind them.

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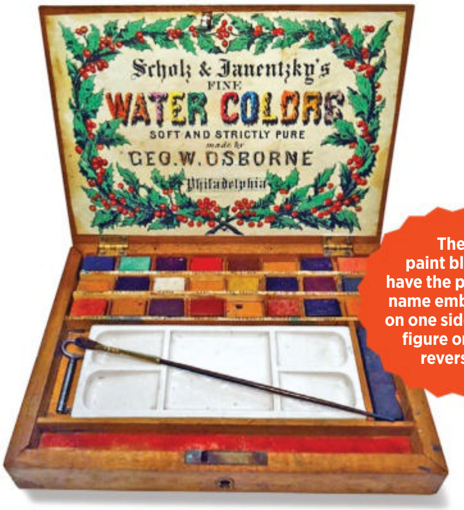

The paint blocks have the product name embossed on one side and a figure on the reverse.

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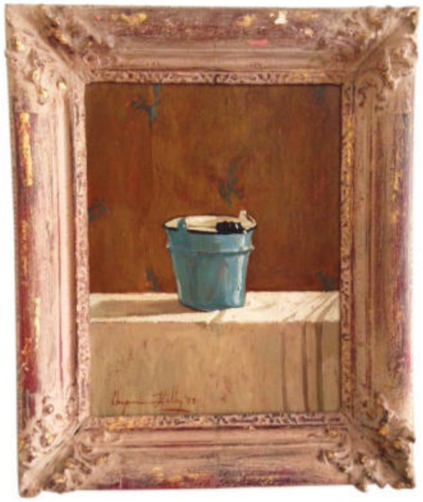

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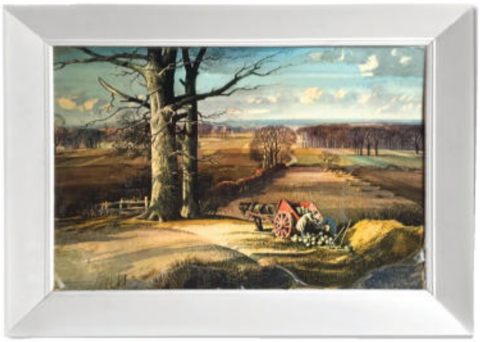

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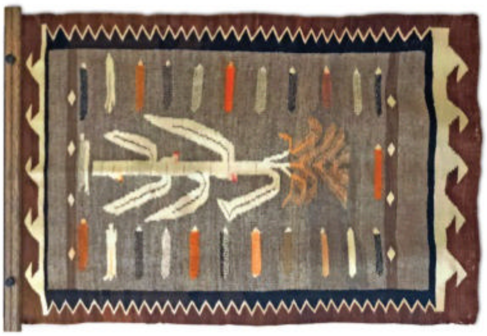


1. What It Is: Watercolor Box

Appraiser Marsha Dixey says it's easy to pinpoint the age of this box. "Philadelphia merchant Scholz & Janentzky was started in 1856, but by 1868, one of the original founders, Julius Scholz, had passed away, and his name was dropped from the logo by 1870." These watercolor paints were made for them by George W. Osborne.

What It's Worth:

$200

2. What It Is: *Morning Sunshine* Print

Rowland Hilder was a well-known artist who created illustrations for *Treasure Island*, pictures for travel guides, and personal landscapes, which sell today for up to $10,000, according to appraiser Helaine Fendelman. Because this find is a print and in fairly poor condition, its value is purely decorative.

What It's Worth:

$20

3. What It Is: Chapman Kelley Still-Life Painting

Appraiser Gene Shapiro says this painting by Chapman Kelley, a Texas artist whose work hangs in museums and collections all over the country, was painted in 1958 when Chapman was a recent graduate of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

What It's Worth:

$1,200–$1,800

4. What It Is: Navajo Weaving

This pictorial rug with the popular "tree of life" motif probably dates from 1930 to 1950, according to appraiser John Buxton. "These rugs became popular after World War II," he says. In calculating its value, regionality makes quite a difference. It might bring in up to twice as much in a Santa Fe gallery versus a national auction.

What It's Worth:

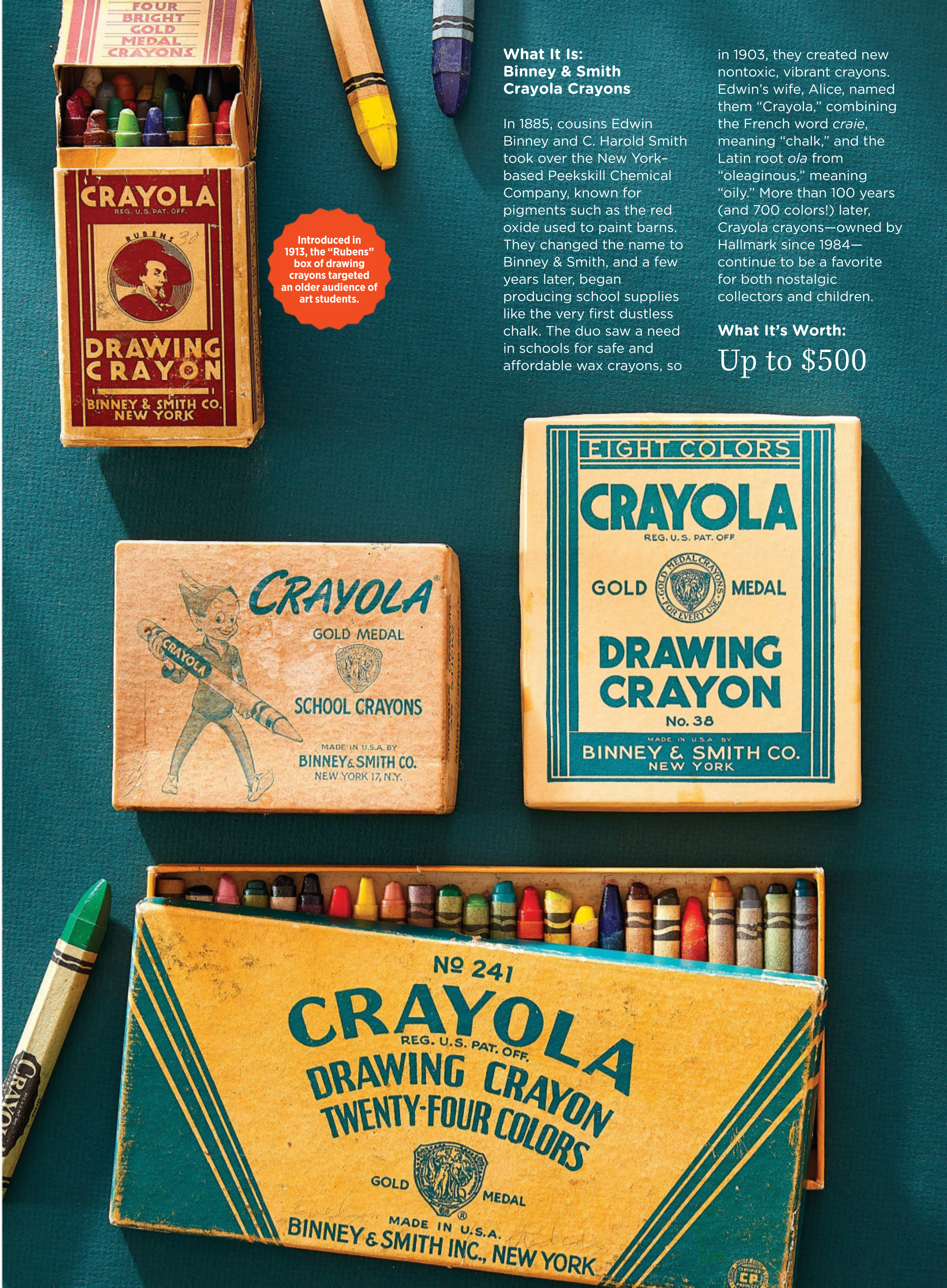
$200–$600

What It Is: Binney & Smith Crayola Crayons

In 1885, cousins Edwin Binney and C. Harold Smith took over the New York-based Peekskill Chemical Company, known for pigments such as the red oxide used to paint barns. They changed the name to Binney & Smith, and a few years later, began producing school supplies like the very first dustless chalk. The duo saw a need in schools for safe and affordable wax crayons, so in 1903, they created new nontoxic, vibrant crayons. Edwin's wife, Alice, named them "Crayola," combining the French word *craie*, meaning "chalk," and the Latin root *ola* from "oleaginous," meaning "oily." More than 100 years (and 700 colors!) later, Crayola crayons—owned by Hallmark since 1984—continue to be a favorite for both nostalgic collectors and children.

What It's Worth:

Up to $500



Introduced in 1913, the "Rubens" box of drawing crayons targeted an older audience of art students.

FOUR BRIGHT GOLD MEDAL CRAYONS
CRAYOLA
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.
RUBENS
DRAWING CRAYON
BINNEY & SMITH CO. NEW YORK
EIGHT COLORS
CRAYOLA
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF
GOLD MEDAL
DRAWING CRAYON
No. 38
MADE IN U.S.A. BY
BINNEY & SMITH CO.
NEW YORK
CRAYOLA
GOLD MEDAL
SCHOOL CRAYONS
MADE IN U.S.A. BY
BINNEY & SMITH CO.
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.
Nº 241
CRAYOLA
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.
DRAWING CRAYON
TWENTY-FOUR COLORS
GOLD MEDAL
MADE IN U.S.A.
BINNEY & SMITH INC., NEW YORK

What is it? What is it worth?

CARNIVAL GAMES

Few relics of yesteryear inspire childhood nostalgia quite like carnival memorabilia, making these collectibles highly sought after.

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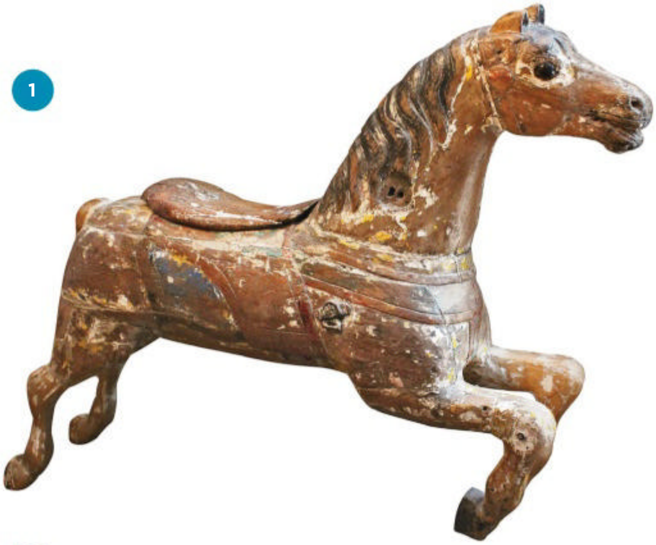

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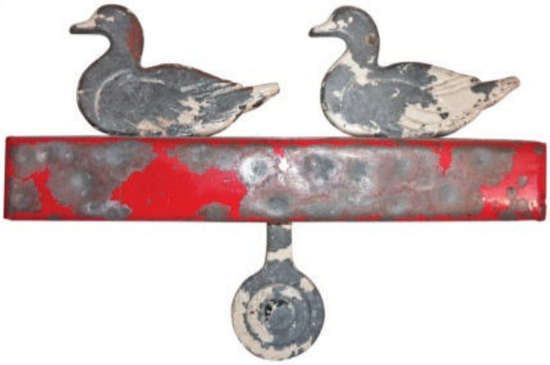

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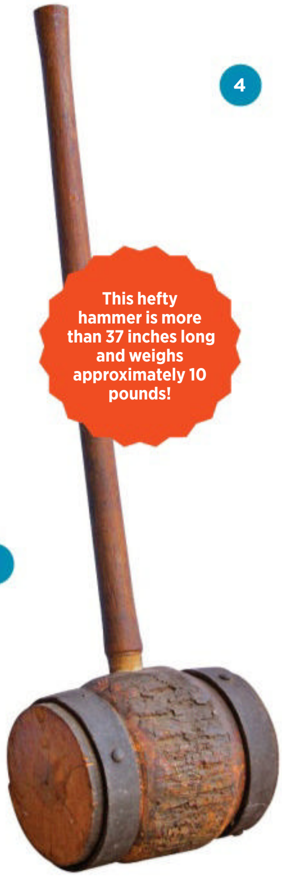
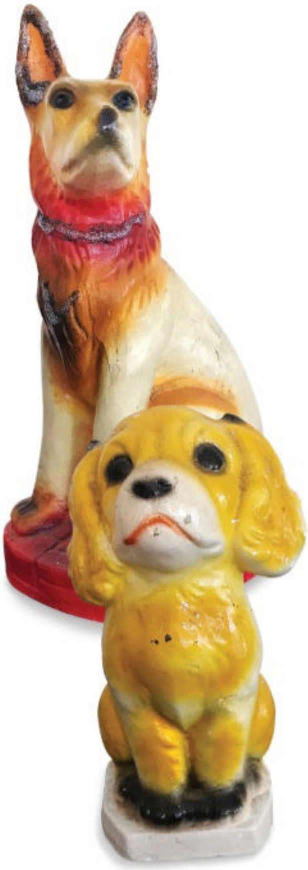


This hefty hammer is more than 37 inches long and weighs approximately 10 pounds!

4



1. What It Is:
Parker Carousel Horse

This jumper-style horse was made over a century ago by the Kansas-based C. W. Parker Factory. The company crafted everything from carnival banners and band organs to carousels and the railroad cars that carried them, says appraiser Helaine Fendelman.

What It's Worth:

$2,500–$3,200

2. What It Is:
Cast-Iron Shooting Gallery

Bull's-eye! These ducks are a target game from a carnival or fair midway and were probably made around 1910 to 1920 by Emil R. Hoffmann & Son, according to appraiser Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions. Original paint adds to the value, and, with its spring intact, this even appears to be in working condition.

What It's Worth:

$300

3. What It Is:
Strongman Mallet

Likely made in the 1920s, this oversize wood hammer was originally used in a High Striker (strongman) game. "These mallets were used to test strength, but they slowly disappeared as those kinds of carnival games lost their appeal," says Bene Raia of Raia Auctioneers. "Most were handmade, and they're hard to find."

What It's Worth:

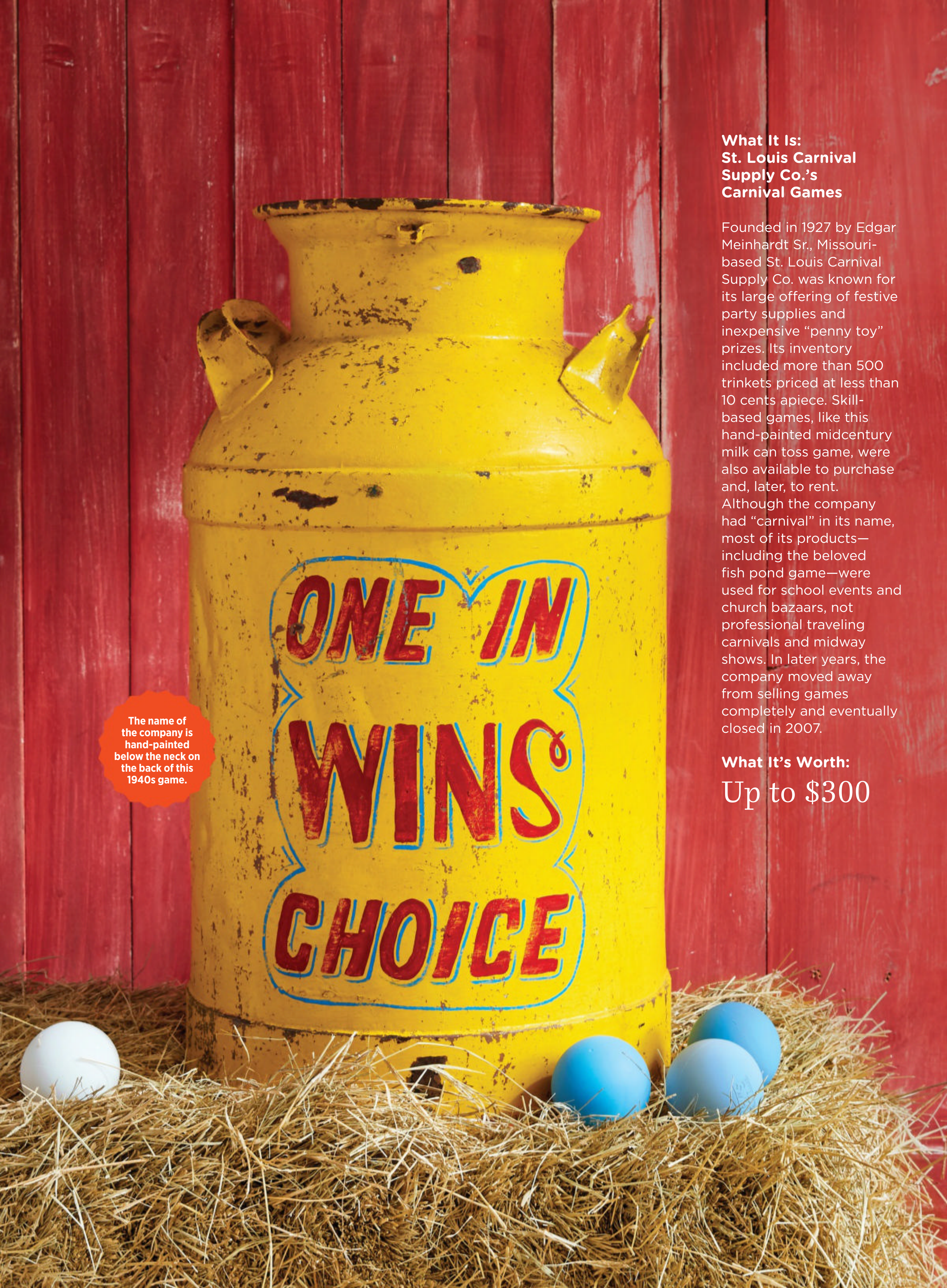
$400–$600

4. What It Is:
Carnival Chalkware

Originally made in the early 20th century as inexpensive repros of English Staffordshire statues, these plaster of Paris sculptures had their heyday in the 1930s and '40s when they hit the mainstream as prizes for midway games. Animals were the most common, but popular characters of the time, like Superman, can go for $150 today.

What It's Worth:

$20–$40



The name of the company is hand-painted below the neck on the back of this 1940s game.

What It Is: St. Louis Carnival Supply Co.'s Carnival Games

Founded in 1927 by Edgar Meinhardt Sr., Missouri-based St. Louis Carnival Supply Co. was known for its large offering of festive party supplies and inexpensive “penny toy” prizes. Its inventory included more than 500 trinkets priced at less than 10 cents apiece. Skill-based games, like this hand-painted midcentury milk can toss game, were also available to purchase and, later, to rent. Although the company had “carnival” in its name, most of its products—including the beloved fish pond game—were used for school events and church bazaars, not professional traveling carnivals and midway shows. In later years, the company moved away from selling games completely and eventually closed in 2007.

What It's Worth:

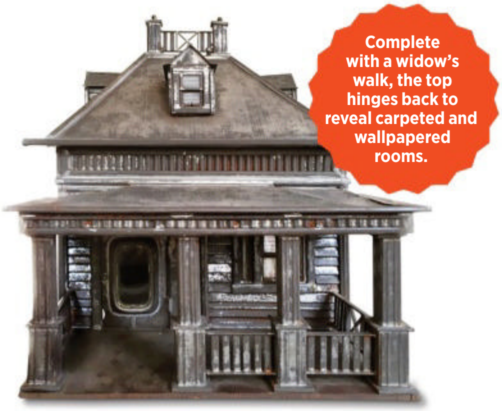
Up to $300

What is it? What is it worth?

CHILD’S PLAY

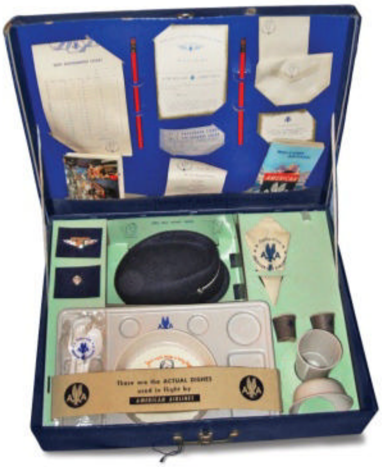
Often passed down from generation to generation, antique toys carry immense value—both sentimental and otherwise.

1



Complete with a widow’s walk, the top hinges back to reveal carpeted and wallpapered rooms.

2



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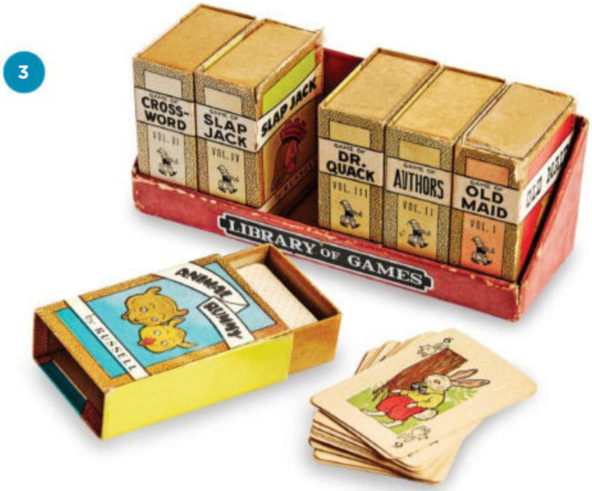

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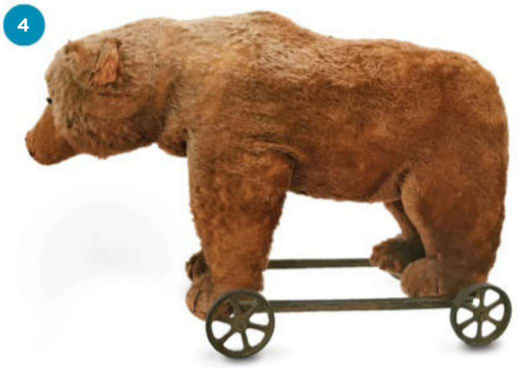


1. What It Is:
Tin Dollhouse

Dollhouses date back to the mid-16th century, when they were called “baby houses.” Appraiser Helaine Fendelman says, “Most dollhouses from the 20th century, such as this, are galvanized and painted tin. This one is intricately constructed by a skilled craftsman, which, along with its large size, makes it unusual.”

What It’s Worth:

$1,200

2. What It Is:
1950s Little Miss Stewardess Set

“Growing up in the 1950s and ’60s, every little girl in America wanted the glamorous job of a flight attendant,” Fendelman says. Made for American Airlines, this set “included all the elements for pretending to be a real flight attendant.” This complete set is still in its original suitcase, which helps up its value.

What It’s Worth:

$75

3. What It Is:
Russell Card Games

“This is a really cute vintage set of miniature card games from the 1930s and ’40s,” says Fendelman. The Russell Manufacturing Co. of Leicester, Massachusetts, published a variety of these sets called “Library of Games,” because they resemble books on a shelf. Each six-book volume contains favorites like Old Maid and Flags.

What It’s Worth:

$45

4. What It Is:
Steiff Riding Toy

While this well-loved bear has no official markings, *Antiques Roadshow* appraiser Julie Scott says it’s likely a German Steiff. “The toy company began making large riding animals in the late 1800s,” she says. “This one looks like it dates prior to 1908, due to its frame and metal wheels.” In mint condition, it would garner up to $1,800 at auction.

What It’s Worth:

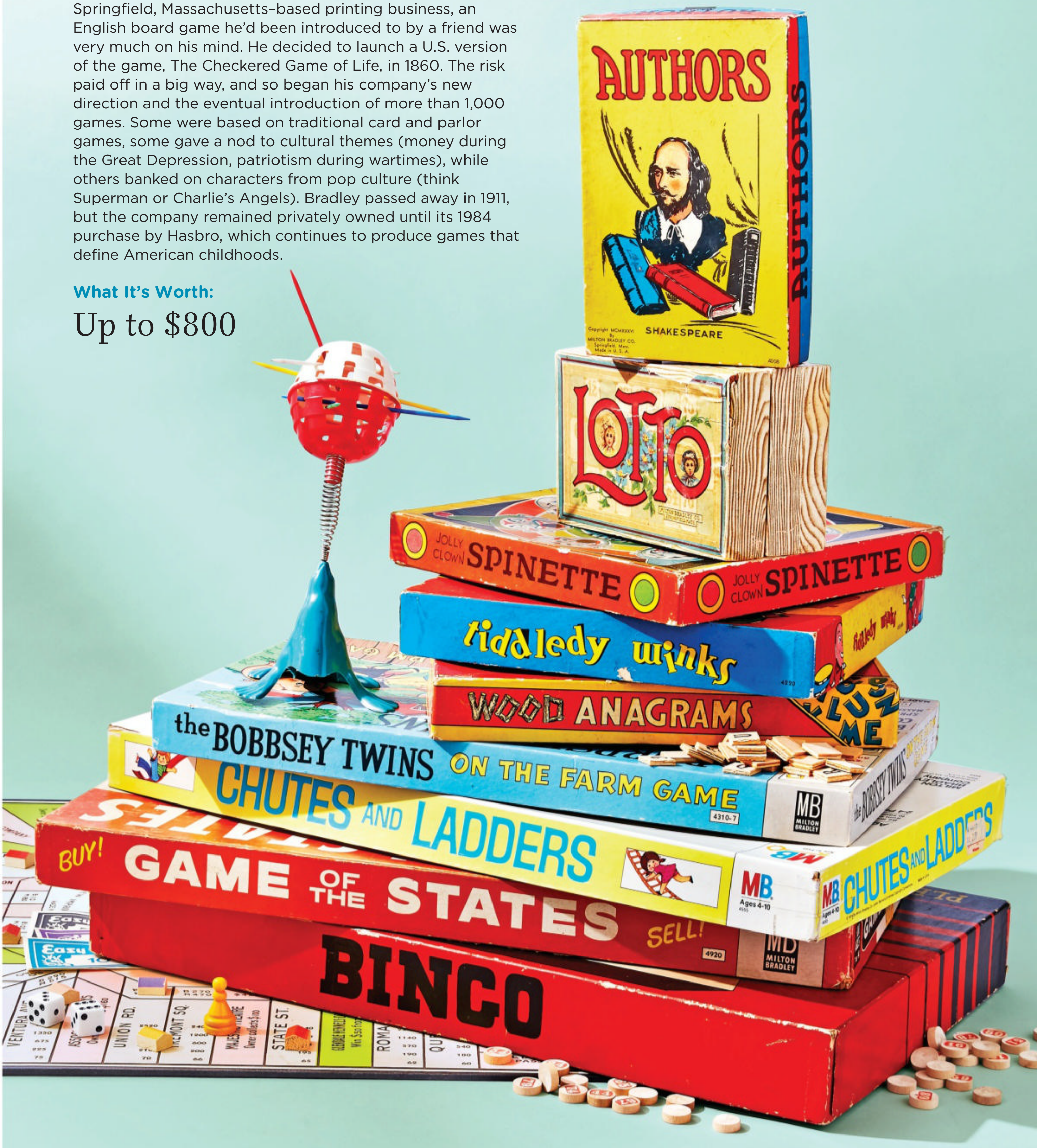
$600

What It Is:
Milton Bradley Board Games

When young lithographer Milton Bradley founded his Springfield, Massachusetts–based printing business, an English board game he'd been introduced to by a friend was very much on his mind. He decided to launch a U.S. version of the game, The Checkered Game of Life, in 1860. The risk paid off in a big way, and so began his company's new direction and the eventual introduction of more than 1,000 games. Some were based on traditional card and parlor games, some gave a nod to cultural themes (money during the Great Depression, patriotism during wartimes), while others banked on characters from pop culture (think Superman or Charlie's Angels). Bradley passed away in 1911, but the company remained privately owned until its 1984 purchase by Hasbro, which continues to produce games that define American childhoods.

What It's Worth:

Up to $800

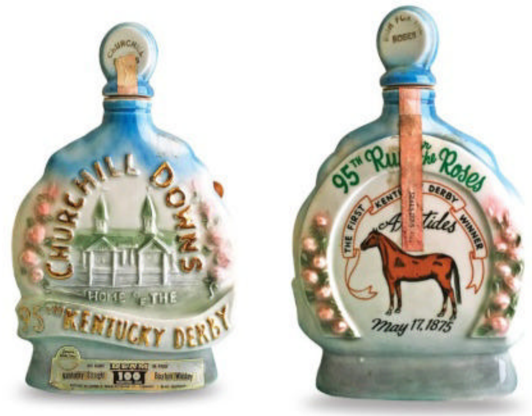

AUTHORS
SHAKESPEARE
LOTTO
JOLLY CLOWN SPINETTE
tiddledy winks
WOOD ANAGRAMS
the BOBBSEY TWINS ON THE FARM GAME
CHUTES AND LADDERS
BUY! GAME OF THE STATES SELL!
BINGO
MB MILTON BRADLEY

What is it? What is it worth?

FOOD AND DRINK

Vintage kitchen items offer a level of charm and elegance that can't be found at your local gourmet cookware store.

1



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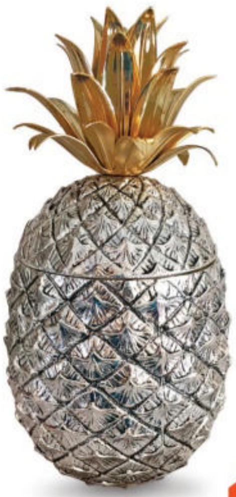

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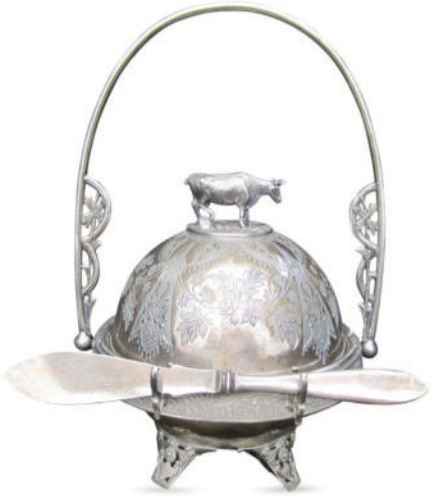

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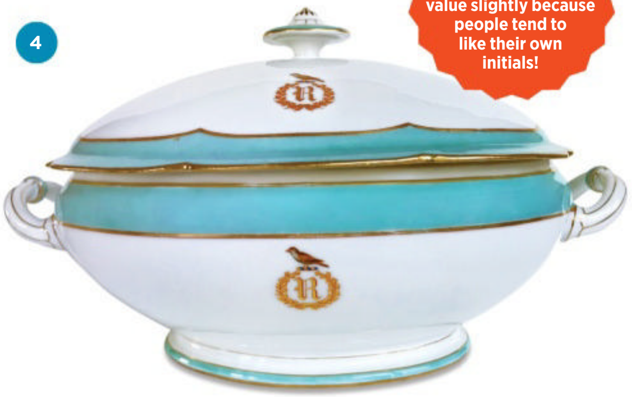


Custom monograms add decorative flair but hurt the value slightly because people tend to like their own initials!

1. What It Is:
Bourbon Decanter

Appraiser Bene Raia tells us that bourbon whiskey brand Jim Beam began creating collectible decanters like this one in the early 1950s as a marketing ploy. Most were made of china and hand-painted with everything from casinos to national landmarks. This 1969 example commemorates the 95th Run for the Roses.

What It's Worth:

$50–$75

2. What It Is:
Silverplate Butter Dish

This dish was made by the Meriden Britannia Co. of Connecticut, according to appraiser John Colasacco of Skinner Inc.: "The detail of the cow gives a clue to the piece's purpose and makes it more desirable. The dish keeps butter cool while on the table—with the lower portion for ice, a tray on top, and a glass insert for the butter."

What It's Worth:

$200–$300

3. What It Is:
Pineapple Ice Bucket

"Handmade in gold-plated cast tin, this ice bucket, designed by Italian artist Mauro Manetti and produced by Fonderia d'Arte in Florence, Italy, is a great midcentury modern barware collector's item," says appraiser Marsha Dixey, who believes it originally would have been sold in the late 1960s.

What It's Worth:

$400

4. What It Is:
Soup Tureen

Although the retail location was in New York, according to Raia, this E.V. Haughwout & Co. tureen was actually manufactured in Limoges, France, between 1890 and 1910. The company's original rise to fame was for producing presidential china, including that of President and Mrs. Lincoln in the 1860s.

What It's Worth:

$350–$500

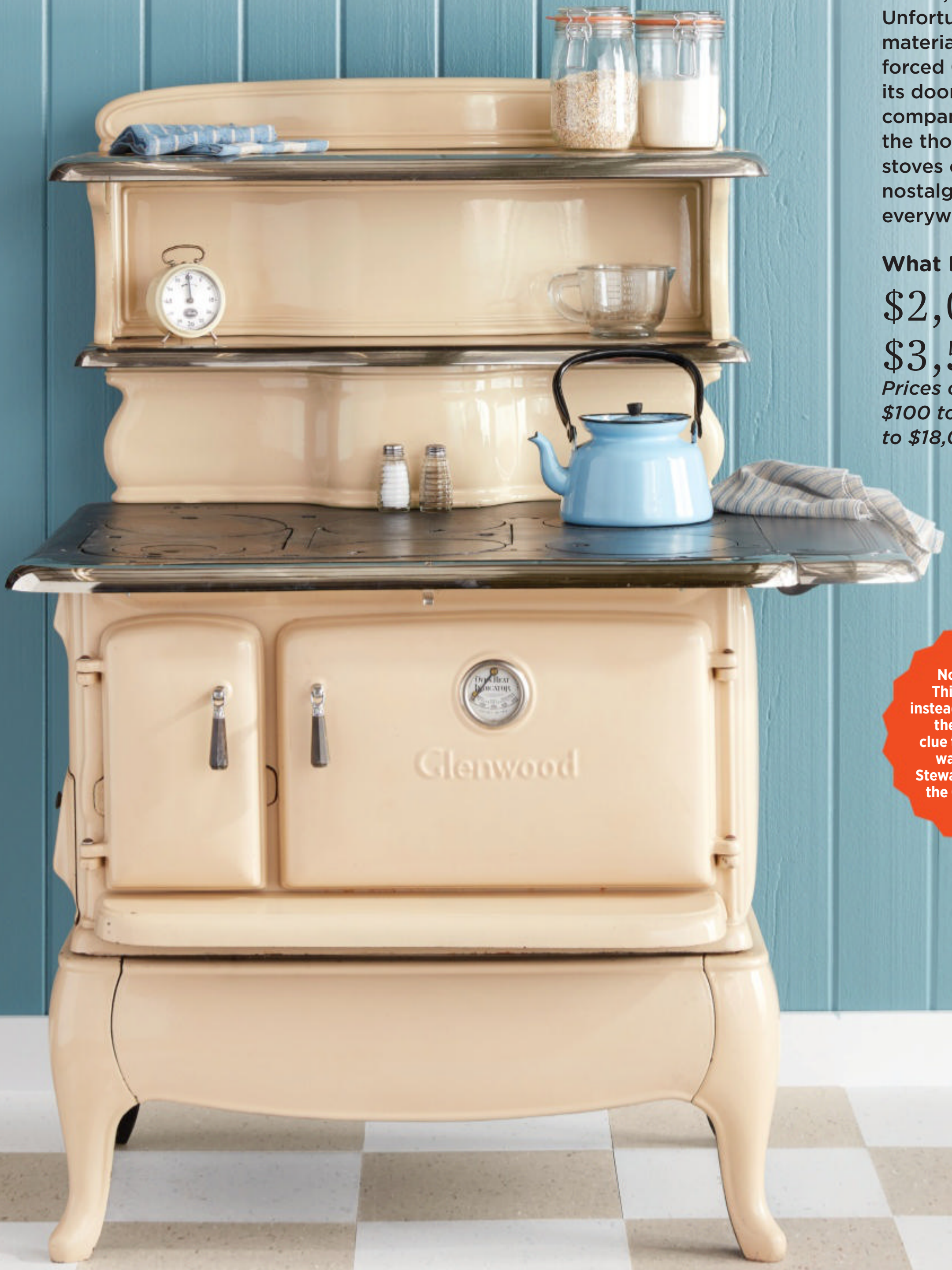
What It Is: Glenwood Cookstove

In 1879, Charles F. Baker, George E. Wilbur, and William E. Walker began the Weir Stove Company in a converted barn in Taunton, Massachusetts. Along with parlor stoves (intended for living areas as a home heating device), they made several lines of cast-iron cookstoves, which were quickly replacing the hearth for home cooking. The simply made Glenwood models were relatively inexpensive, making them among the most popular and leading the company to eventually change its name to the Glenwood Range Co. Following the flu pandemic of 1918, consumers went crazy for cleanliness, prompting the introduction of gleaming white porcelain-enameled stoves—at nearly double the price. When trouble hit during the Depression, Stewart Stove Co. stepped in to help by providing the company with labeled Glenwood stoves based on their Service Stewart 7 model, such as this one. Unfortunately, changes in materials and fuel methods forced Glenwood to shut its doors in 1949, but the company lives on through the thousands of restored stoves cooking up nostalgia in kitchens everywhere.

What It's Worth:

$2,000–$3,500 (average)

Prices can range from $100 to $400 (unrestored) to $18,000



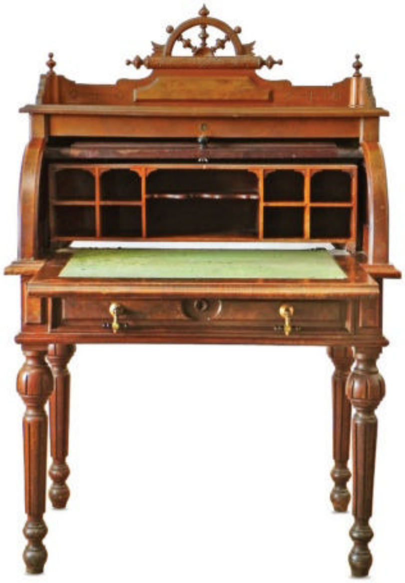
Notice the details! This stove's round—instead of moon-shaped—thermometer is the clue that this Glenwood was likely made by Stewart Stove Co. during the Great Depression.

What is it? What is it worth?

FURNITURE

Large pieces like these lend an air of stateliness to any dining room, bedroom, or study and instantly tie the room together.

1



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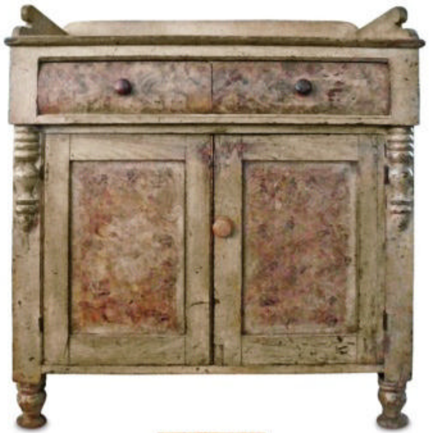

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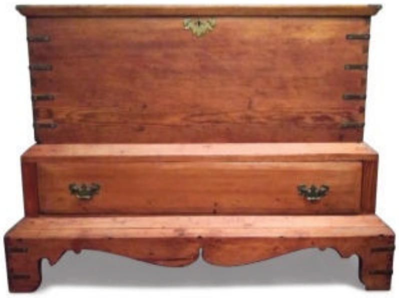

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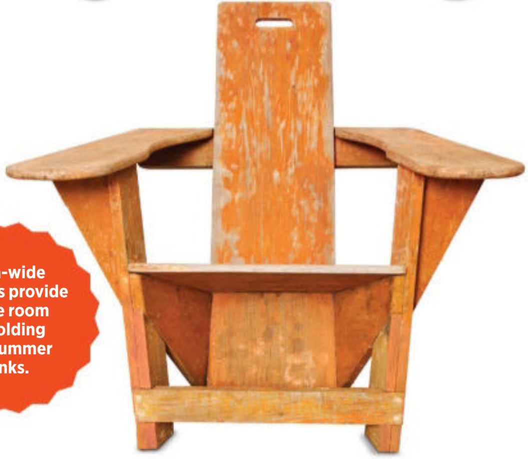


Extra-wide armrests provide ample room for holding cool summer drinks.

1. What It Is:
Eastlake Writing Desk

With its turned spindle gallery and burl walnut panels, this cylinder desk is an excellent example of the very popular Eastlake-style furniture made in the Northern U.S. from the early to mid 1880s. The designs are called Eastlake because they refer to the designs found in an 1860s book by British architect Charles Eastlake.

What It's Worth:

$700–$900

2. What It Is:
Wood Chest

At first glance, this appears to be an 1800s campaign chest, but appraiser Christopher Barber of Skinner Inc. shares that it's only partly antique. "This pine blanket chest has been significantly altered," he says. "The top section is late 18th to early 19th century, but the rest of it is more likely from the early 20th century."

What It's Worth:

$75–$100

3. What It Is:
Circa-1840 Country Empire Sideboard

Skinner Inc. appraiser Karen Keane says this piece appears to retain its original grain painting, making it a nice example of American Empire furniture. "The inscription 'N. Helfrich' could be the maker, but I couldn't find a reference to a cabinetmaker by that name," she says. "It may also be the name of a former owner."

What It's Worth:

$1,200

4. What It Is:
American Westport Adirondack Chair

This piece was likely made around 1920 and is an early form of American art deco with roots in European cubism and constructivism. "Because they were used outdoors, these chairs rarely survived," says appraiser Helaine Fendelman. "This one still has most of its original paint, which is very rare."

What It's Worth:

$15,000

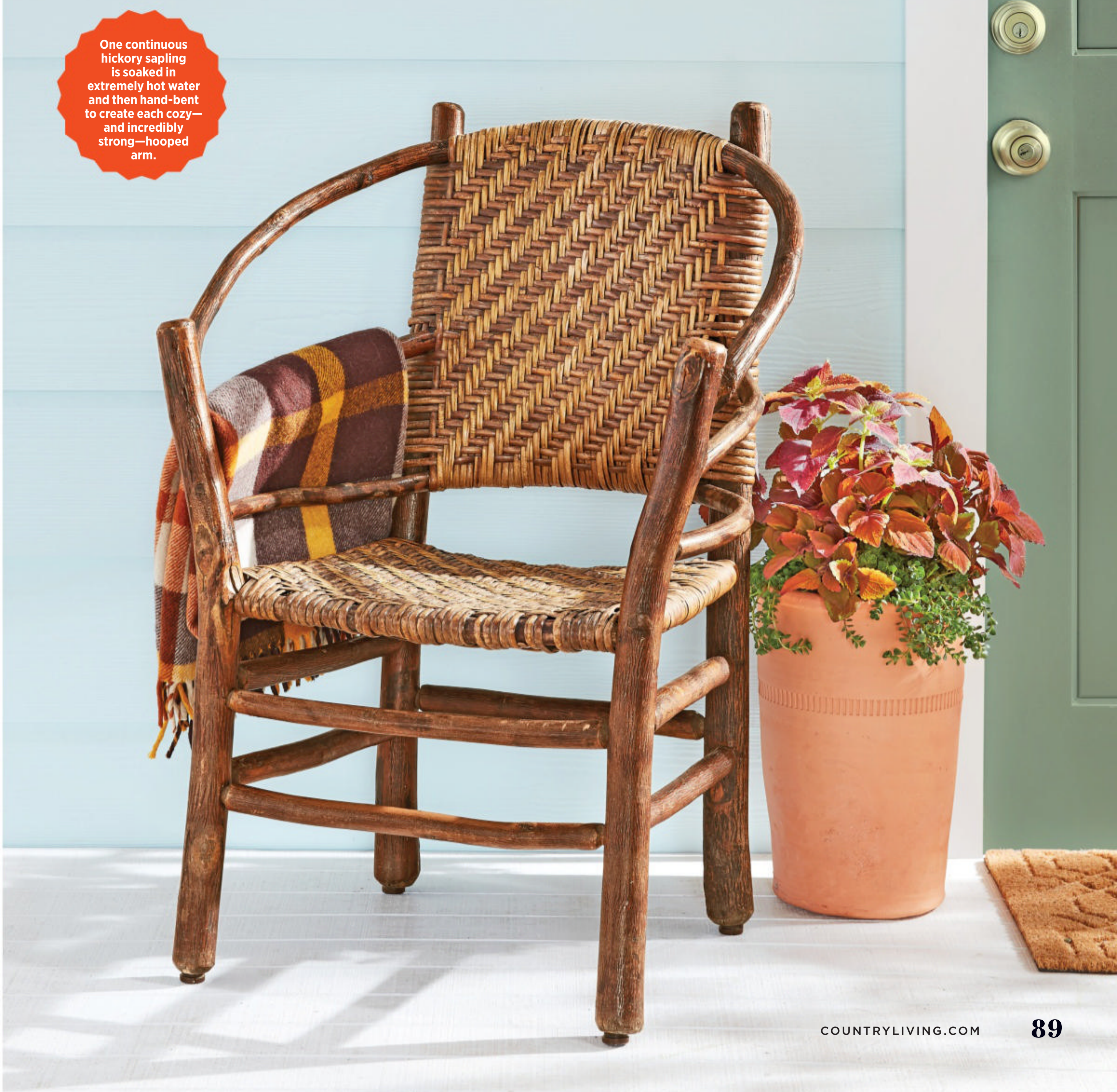
What It Is:

Old Hickory Furniture Co.'s Andrew Jackson Chair

In the 1840s, young Billy Richardson helped his father make hickory sapling chairs for President Andrew Jackson's Hermitage home. Fifty years later, in 1892, that design and President Jackson's "Old Hickory" nickname resurfaced when Billy and others founded the Martinsville, Indiana–based Old Hickory Chair Company. Known for its bark-on hickory sapling construction, the popular rustic furniture soon reached all corners of the country, with pieces gracing homes, resorts, and health spas, as well as presidential retreats. Almost 130 years later, the family-owned company is still based in Indiana, continuing the tradition of handcrafting beautiful and sustainable hickory sapling furniture. To learn more, visit *oldhickory.com*.

What It's Worth:

Up to $1,600



One continuous hickory sapling is soaked in extremely hot water and then hand-bent to create each cozy—and incredibly strong—hooped arm.

What is it? What is it worth?

MUSIC

Antique instruments, musical equipment, and concert souvenirs bring to life the songs and sounds of bygone eras.

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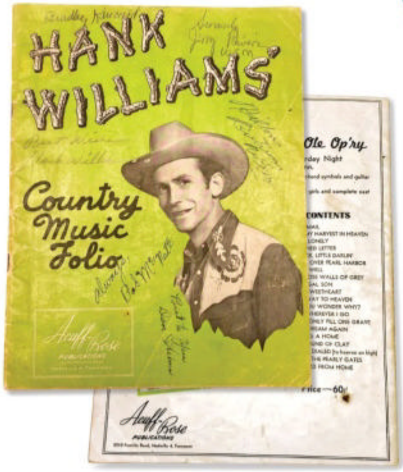

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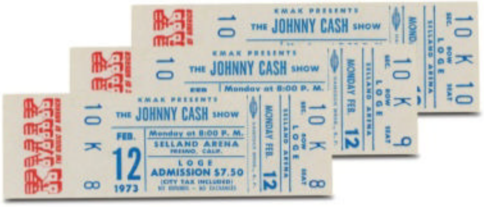

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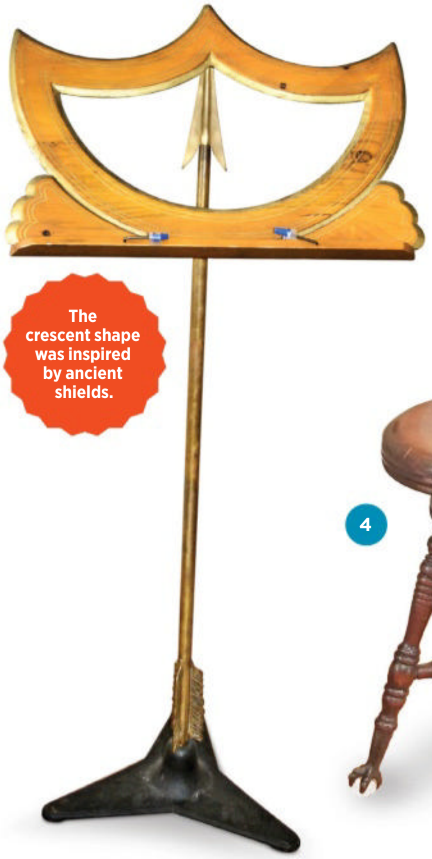
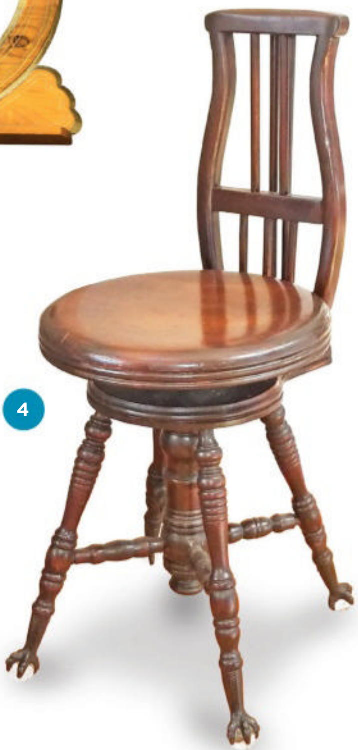


The crescent shape was inspired by ancient shields.

4



1. What It Is: Hank Williams Folio

Appraiser Laura Woolley of the Collector's Lab tells *Antiques Roadshow* producer Marsha Bemko that this vintage music folio is signed by not only Hank Williams but also the most famous lineup of his band, the Drifting Cowboys, who accompanied him for his Grand Ole Opry debut in 1949.

What It's Worth:

$1,000

2. What It Is: Johnny Cash Concert Tickets

"A ticket from Johnny Cash's 1950s and '60s heyday can go for $75," says Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions, who consulted with Dean Harmeyer. Issued in 1973, these fetch less. They are unused, however, which is a desirable trait with vintage tickets of all kinds.

What It's Worth:

$60 for three

3. What It Is: Regency-Style Music Stand

Based on the shape and materials, this lovely metal-and-wood piece most likely dates back to the 1930s. While the music stand itself is fairly simple, appraiser Bene Raia says that it's in excellent condition, which should be music to an owner's ears.

What It's Worth:

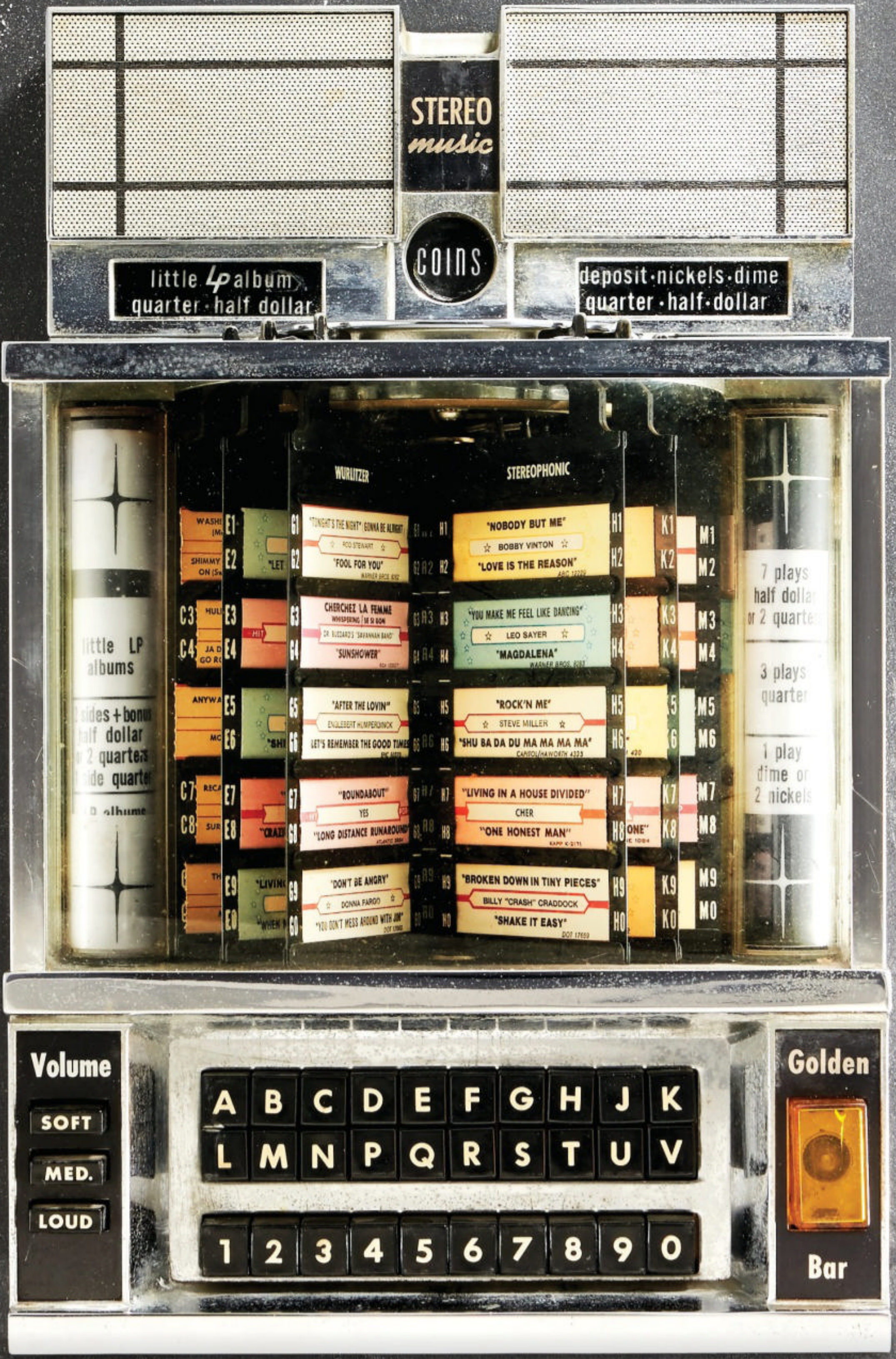
$700

4. What It Is: Victorian Piano Stool

"Seating like this was popular from about 1837 to 1901," says appraiser Helaine Fendelman. "They were generally made of beech, oak, walnut, or mahogany like this one." While this piece appears to be in good condition, she notes that a replacement part—the chair back—was added later.

What It's Worth:

$100


STEREO music
COINS
little LP album quarter · half dollar
deposit · nickels · dime quarter · half · dollar
WURLITZER
STEREOPHONIC
little LP albums
7 plays half dollar or 2 quarters
3 plays quarter
1 play dime or 2 nickels
Volume
SOFT
MED.
LOUD
A B C D E F G H J K
L M N P Q R S T U V
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0
Golden
Bar

What It Is: Wurlitzer Jukebox

This coin-operated piece belted tunes from a restaurant booth in the 1960s, when a half-dollar would have bought seven songs. At the time, it was the newest in a series of musical innovations from Wurlitzer, which also pioneered the coin-operated electric piano, says Marsha Bemko of *Antiques Roadshow*, who consulted with appraiser Brian Witherell. Floor-size Wurlitzers from the 1930s go for thousands of dollars, but this one's small scale (18 inches tall) and more recent vintage bring in less.

What It's Worth:

$70

What is it? What is it worth?

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

There's nothing new under the sun, but there is plenty that's old. These outdoor antique pieces are as timeless as they come.

As a general rule, vintage women's bicycles are worth about half as much as men's versions.

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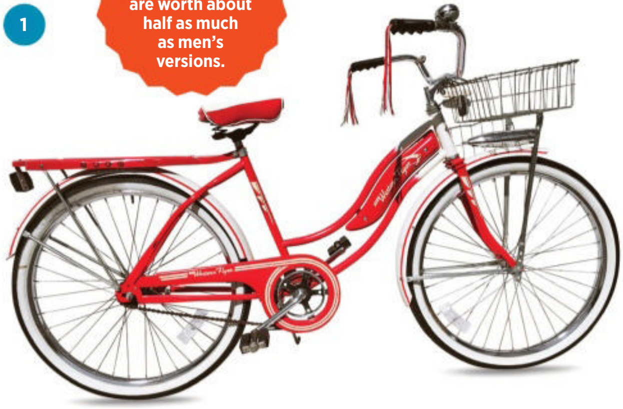

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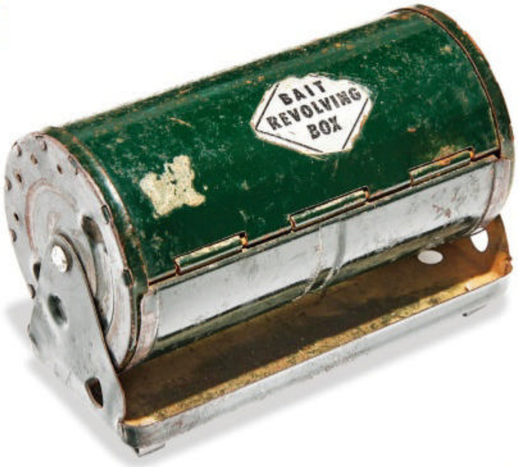

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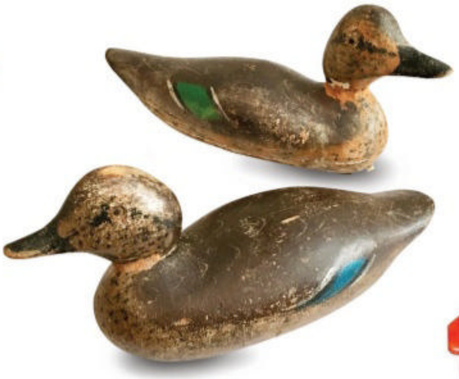

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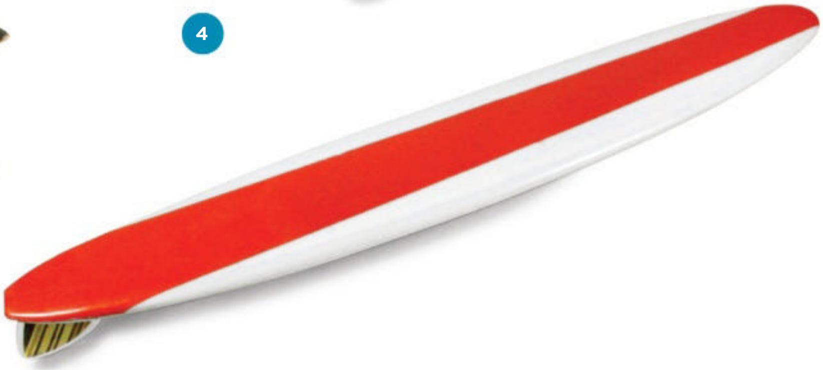


1. What It Is:
Western Flyer Bicycle

According to appraiser Marsha Dixey, Western Auto Supply Company, founded in 1909, began selling Western Flyer bicycles to expand its inventory. While their bike production ceased in the late '50s, Western made retro styles of early models in the 1980s and early '90s, like this one. An original could be worth up to $500.

What It's Worth:

$50–$100

2. What It Is:
Duck Decoys

Nancy Druckman of Sotheby's says these blue- and green-winged birds were made in Detroit by Mason's Decoy Factory. Between 1896 and 1924, Mason's produced hand-painted wooden decoys in five grades of quality. Druckman suspects these are middle grade.

What It's Worth:

$1,000 each (repaired)

3. What It Is:
Revolving Bait Box

This type of gear is very collectible and still used today, says Dixey. Many of these small bait boxes are assumed to have been made in the 1950s in Japan, but because they lack any markings, that's difficult to confirm. This model was great for storing tackle and had a spot for worms—you could rotate the cylinder to access both.

What It's Worth:

$15

4. What It Is:
Pop-Out Surfboard

Surf movies and Beach Boys music made surfing a national mania in the early 1960s, says appraiser Timothy Gordon, and the craze created a demand for surfboards that couldn't be met with traditional handcrafted wooden boards. Inexpensive molded fiberglass boards like this became a quick fix for manufacturers.

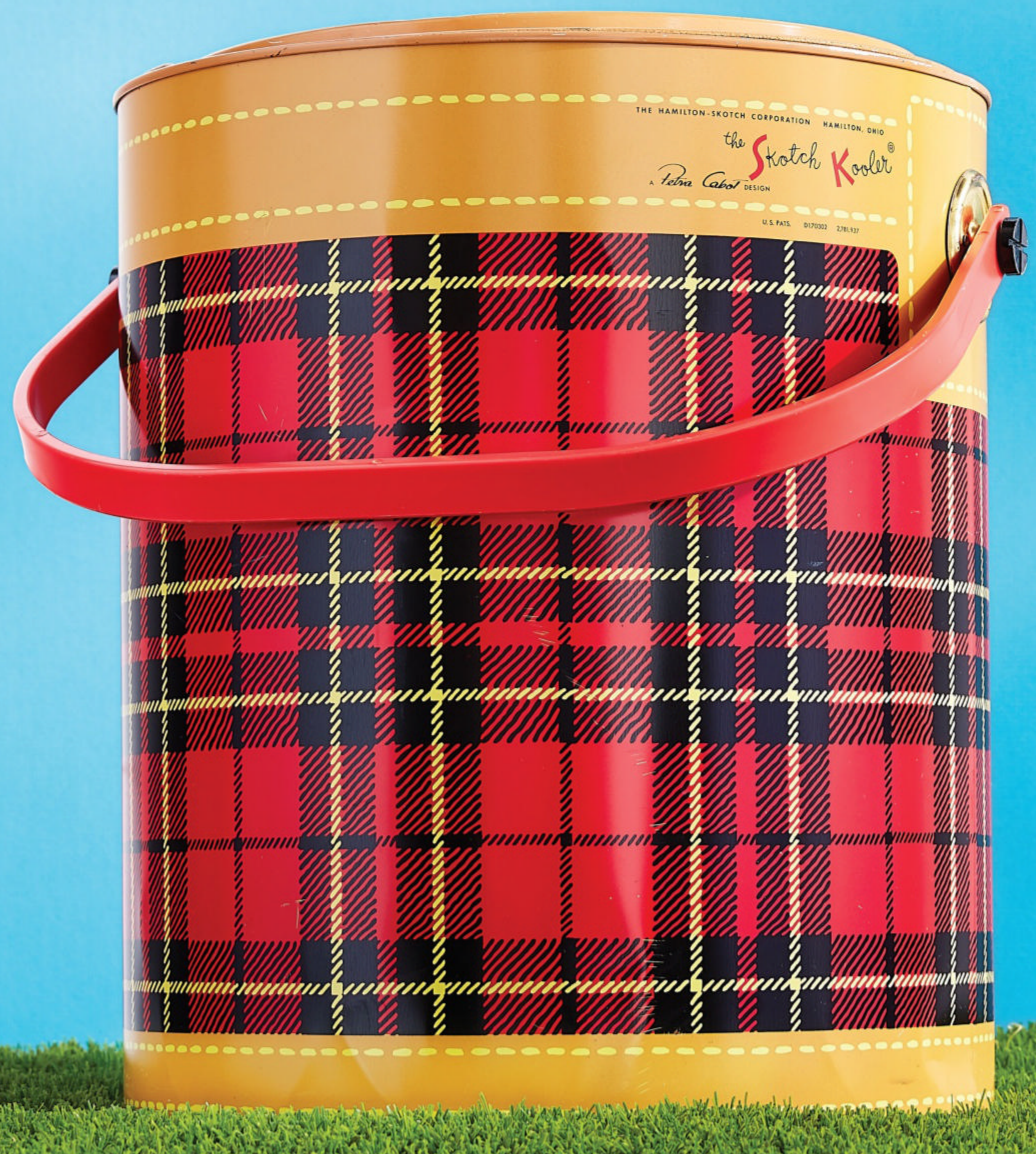
What It's Worth:

$1,500

What It Is:
The Skotch Kooler

Brothers Louis and Phillip Piker launched Hamilton Sheet Metal Co. in Hamilton, Ohio, in 1910, then merged with Schlichter Manufacturing in 1919 to become Hamilton Metal Products, producing tool, lunch, and tackle boxes, among other specialty items. When a 1949 minnow bucket failed to sell, Louis's sons—then at the helm—adapted it into a round picnic cooler and, in 1950, enlisted Woodstock artist Petra Cabot to give the vessel a new look, its now-iconic plaid design. Though an initial hefty price tag (the equivalent of $450 today!) limited sales, the Skotch Kooler later took off thanks to a design tweak and price adjustment—so much so that the company changed its name to Hamilton-Skotch. After the last of the Pikers left the company and the Ohio factory closed around 1970, the brand disappeared...until now.

What It's Worth:
Up to $65


THE HAMILTON-SKOTCH CORPORATION HAMILTON, OHIO
the Skotch Kooler®
A Petra Cabot DESIGN
U. S. PATS. D170302 2,781,937

What is it? What is it worth?

WOODWORKING

Accenting your home with antique wood pieces allows you to go against the grain while still maintaining a classic feel.

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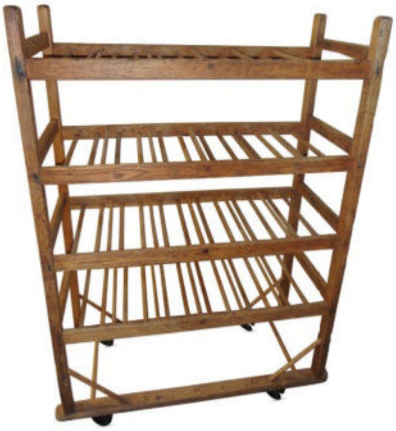

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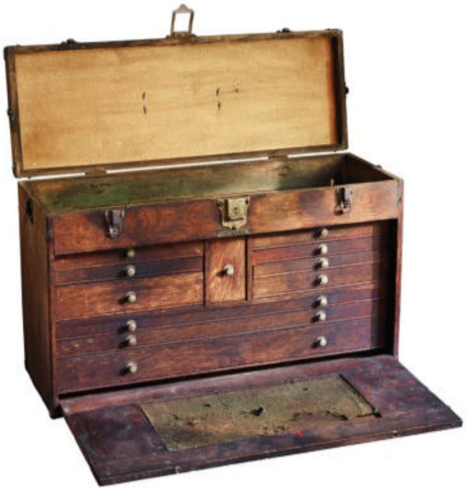

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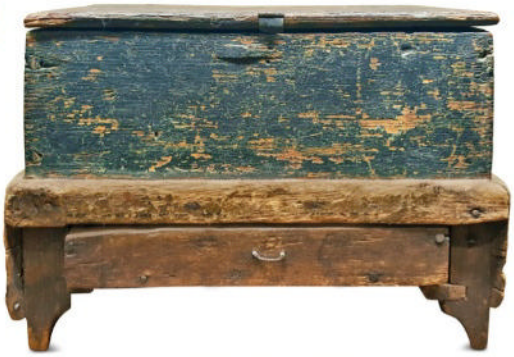

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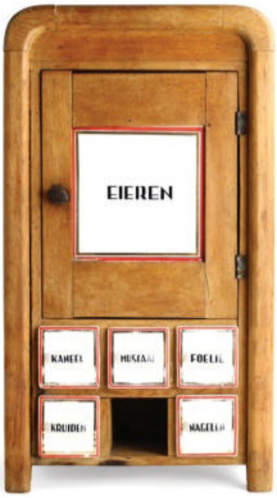

1. What It Is:
Wood Rolling Rack

Early-20th-century baker's racks like this one were used in bread company factories. "The rack's open shelves were essential for letting air circulate around the freshly baked loaves, and the four steel casters allowed the bread to be moved quickly to packaging and distribution areas," says appraiser Bene Raia.

What It's Worth:

$300

2. What It Is:
Ragtime-Era Toolbox

"This looks like a Gerstner & Sons toolbox for a machinist or engineer, made between 1910 and 1920," says Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions. She adds that the value is determined by its current condition and the numerous drawers it boasts. Gerstner is still in business, and its brand-new offerings go for as much as $1,300.

What It's Worth:

$375

3. What It Is:
1700s Primitive Box

Appraiser Andrew Holter of Nye & Company says, "This box is marked 'Edward West his box made in year 1741,' so we know its age and can assume it's either English or American." The box was not made to hold anything specific, he says, but it's very old and interesting. A similar box in excellent condition could bring up to $1,200.

What It's Worth:

$150–$300

4. What It Is:
Dutch Spice Rack

"This style of kitchen accessories originated in the Netherlands in the early 1900s," says Marsha Bemko of *Antiques Roadshow*, who consulted with appraiser Karen Keane. The top compartment is labeled "EIEREN" ("eggs," in Dutch), and the drawers below hold spices. The missing drawer hurts the value a bit.

What It's Worth:

$150

What It Is: Stanley Woodworking Planes

Frederick Trent Stanley founded Stanley's Bolt Manufactory in New Britain, Connecticut, in 1843, incorporating Stanley Works close to a decade later. Meanwhile, in 1857, Frederick's cousin Henry founded Stanley Rule & Level Company, entering the woodworking plane market in 1869 by acquiring the patents of inventor Leonard Bailey with its purchase of Bailey, Chaney & Co. Stanley sold more than 300 styles and sizes of metal-bodied planes, from standard bench planes to special-use models like butcher block and tongue-and-groove. Many had elegant rosewood handles and intricate designs, making them both beautiful and practical. The two Stanley companies merged in 1920 as the Stanley Works, which continues to innovate today as part of Stanley Black & Decker.

What it's Worth:

Up to $3,000

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